BIG COMIC SUPERIOR

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小学館

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AZUMI 8. ALONE

CHAPTER 1: TO THE HOMETOWN...!!.....5

CHAPTER 2: THE WOUNDED LION.....35

CHAPTER 3: GRAMPA AND MUNENORI.....59

CHAPTER 4: ALONE.....83

CHAPTER 5: ONOHA ITTŌRYŪ.....113

CHAPTER 6: MEETING AGAIN WITH KANBEE.....137

CHAPTER 7: FALCONRY AND OVERNIGHT.....167

CHAPTER 8: PRELIMINARY INSPECTION.....198

CHAPTER 1:
TO THE
HOMETOWN
...!!

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ザザ
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WAITING IN THE INN FOR AN AUTUMN TYPHOON TO PASS.
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ガタガタ
2
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ヒュー
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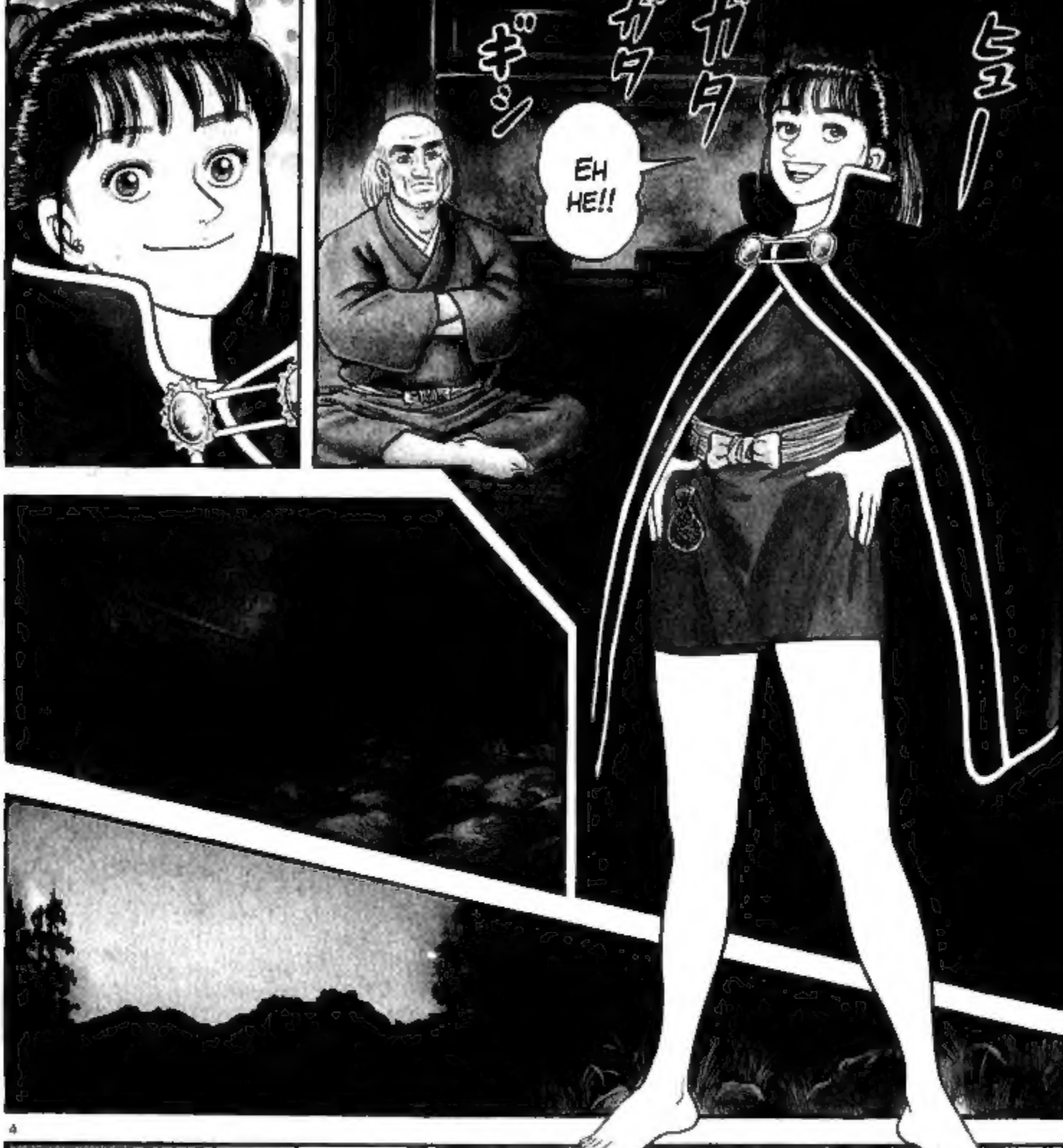
WHAT AN IN-CREDIBLE DOWN-POUR, GRAM-PA...

ヒュー
ヒュー
ヒュー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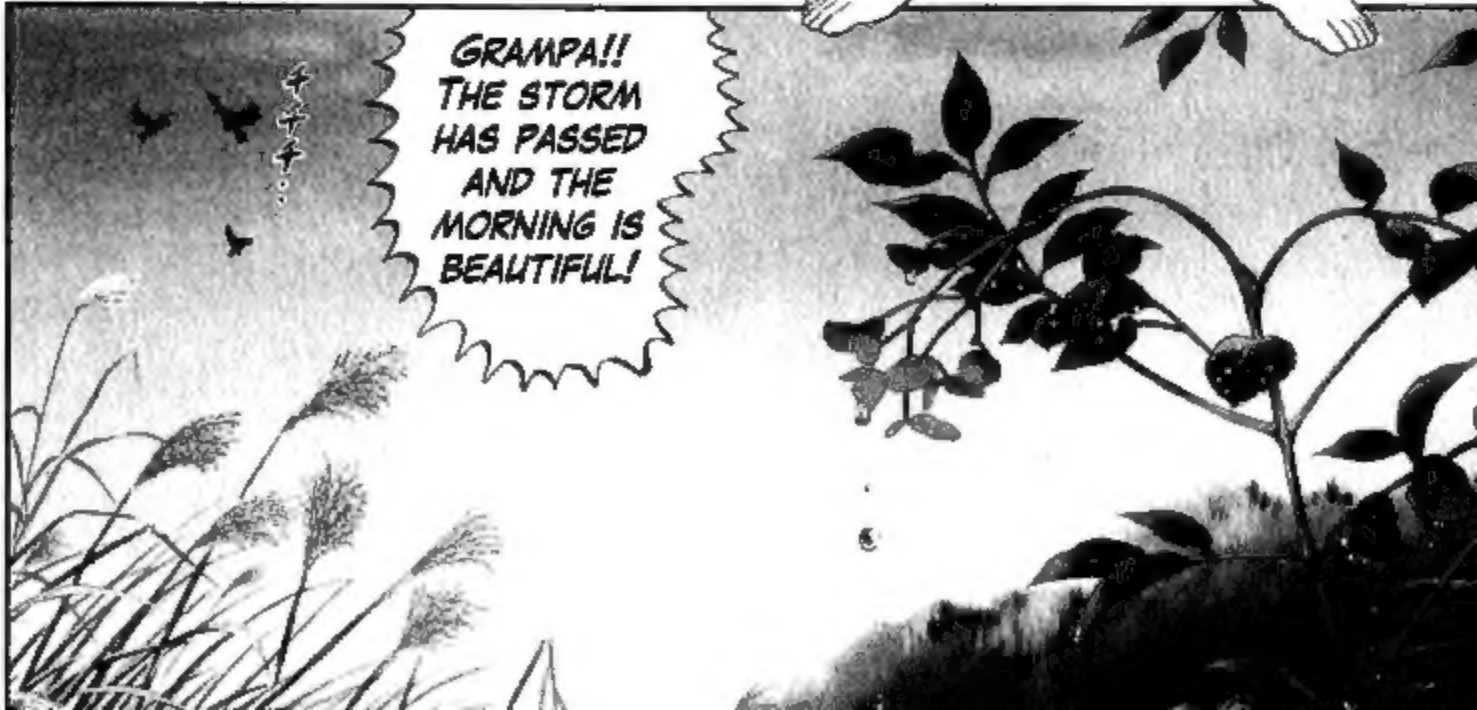
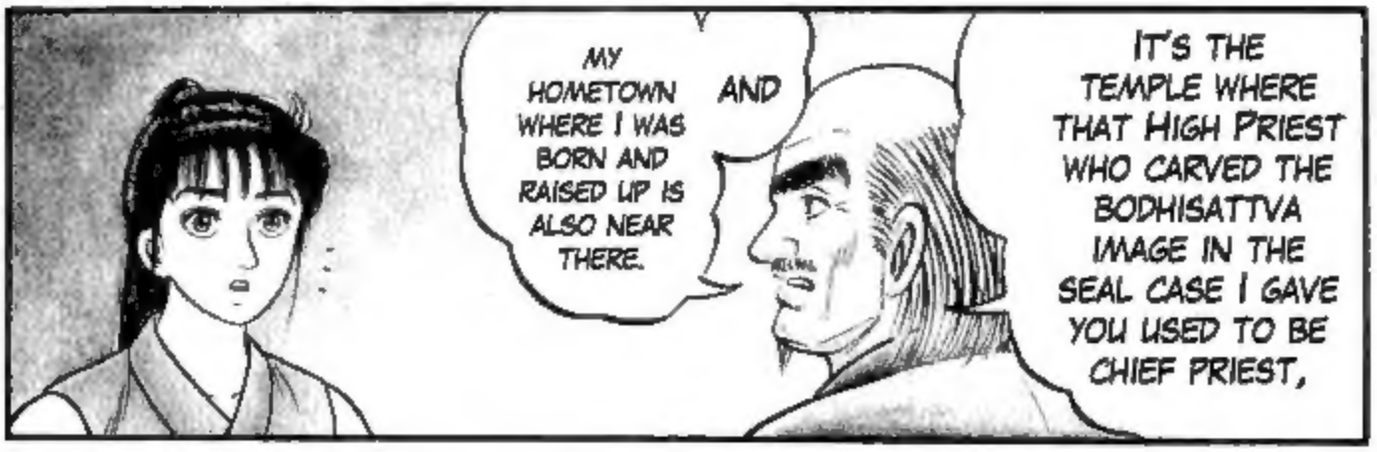
ギシ
EH HE!!


GRAMPA!! THE STORM HAS PASSED AND THE MORNING IS BEAUTIFUL!
チチチ…

EEEH ...
WHY!?
I WAS CONSIDERING GOING THERE.
THERE'S A TEMPLE CALLED KITAIN IN MUSASHI KAWAGOE.


MY HOMETOWN WHERE I WAS BORN AND RAISED UP IS ALSO NEAR THERE.
AND
IT'S THE TEMPLE WHERE THAT HIGH PRIEST WHO CARVED THE BODHISATTVA IMAGE IN THE SEAL CASE I GAVE YOU USED TO BE CHIEF PRIEST,

WE WERE RAISED IN THAT OKUDANI VILLAGE, BUT YOU...
THAT'S RIGHT...
.....
FOR REAL!?
YOUR HOME-TOWN!!

I'VE NEVER HEARD YOU TALK OF YOUR HOMETOWN EVEN ONCE!!

A TEMPLE CALLED KITAIN IN MUSASHI KAWAGOE!! TAKE THIS LETTER WITH YOU!!
LISTEN, AND REMEMBER IT WELL!!
WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS IT WHERE YOU WERE BORN?!
.....
IF YOU SHOW THAT SEAL CASE AND THAT LETTER IN THAT TEMPLE, THEY WILL SURELY HIDE YOU!
.....
NATURALLY, WE'RE...
AREN'T WE GOING TOGETHER, GRAMPA!?

.....

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN EVEN YOU WERE A CHILD!!
AH HA HA!!
HOW WERE YOU WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD, GRAMPA!?
COME ON, TELL ME ABOUT YOU WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD AND ABOUT YOUR HOMETOWN!
HYAH HA HA HA HA!
I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW YOU WERE...
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...
I CAN'T WAIT!!
UHHH!!
REALLY!?
OCCASION-ALLY, AS I REMEM-BER...
I'LL TELL YOU...ABOUT THAT ALONG THE ROAD...

WE MUST CONSIDER THAT THEY COULD ALREADY BE WATCHING THIS PLACE.
OF THE ENEMIES WHO AIM TO TAKE OUR LIVES...?
AVOIDING THE EYES
HOW WILL WE ESCAPE TO MUSASHI KAWAGOE,

IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLETELY ESCAPE THEIR EYES.
EVEN IF WE RAN ON HORSES, COVERED BY THE NIGHT...

I'LL KILL, KILL AND KILL EVEN MORE!! LEAVE IT TO ME, GRAMPA!!
I'LL FIGHT !!

EVEN THE ENEMY...JUST IN ORDER TO KILL THE TWO OF US,
WON'T CAUSE TENS OF CASUAL-TIES.
IF WE RETIRE TO A CALM AND SECLUDED LIFE IN A LAND
FAR AWAY FROM SUNPU... NO, FROM THE LANDS GOVERNED BY TOKUGAWA...

.....
LET'S TRY TO CONVEY THIS THINK-ING TO THE LEADER OF THE ENEMY...
THEY PROBABLY WON'T TAKE OUR LIVES AT ALL COSTS.

TOYOTOMI WAS WIPED OUT AND THE TOKUGAWA RULING POWER HAS ALREADY BECOME UNSHAKEABLE...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WITH...A SECLUDED LIFE!?
I CON-SIDERED THAT...

THANKS TO YOUR WORK WHERE YOU RISKED YOUR IRREPLACEABLE LIVES...
EVEN THE THINGS I ASPIRED FOR...

.....
WERE... MORE OR LESS ACHIEVED.
WE'VE WORKED ENOUGH...
IT'S ENOUGH ...
11
.....
I THOUGHT THAT, FROM NOW ON...
WE COULD LIVE PEACEFULLY IN MY HOMETOWN ...
.....

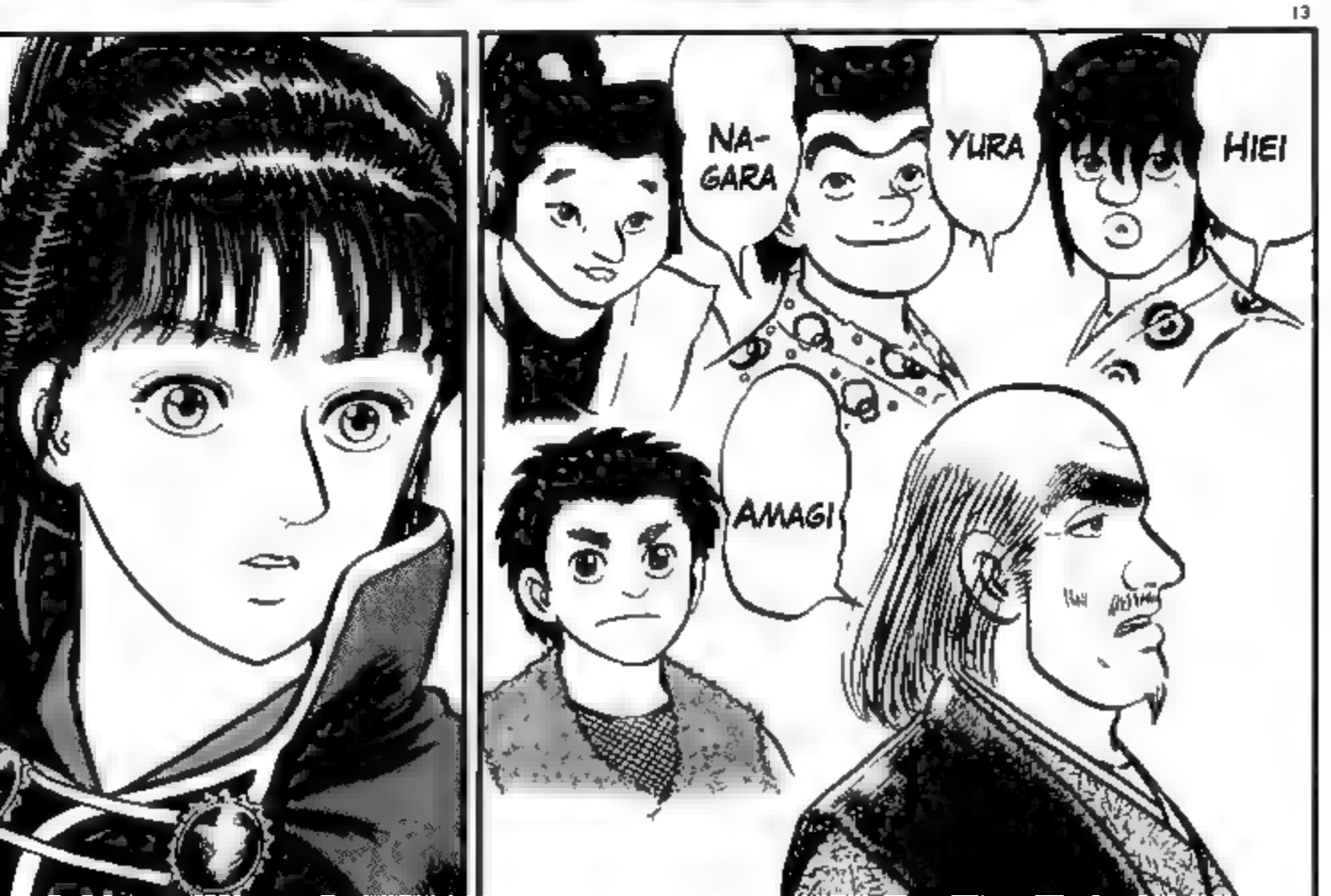
LET'S LEAVE PEACE-FULLY TOGE-THER...

WOULD HE UNDERSTAND AND GIVE UP!?
IF WE DID THAT AND IEYASU KNEW IT...
IT WON'T BE SO SIMPLE.

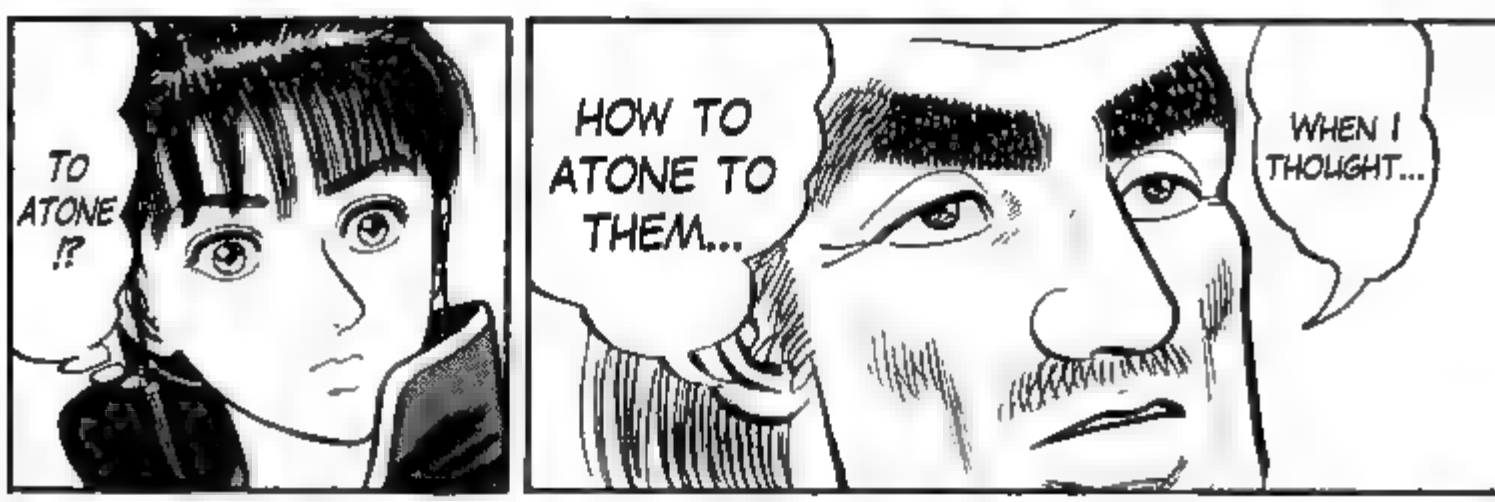
THOSE ARE NOT HIS TRUE FEEL-INGS...

SUDDENLY, HE SAYS THINGS THAT AREN'T HIS STYLE...
MORE-OVER... GRAMPA IS ACTING-WEIRD...

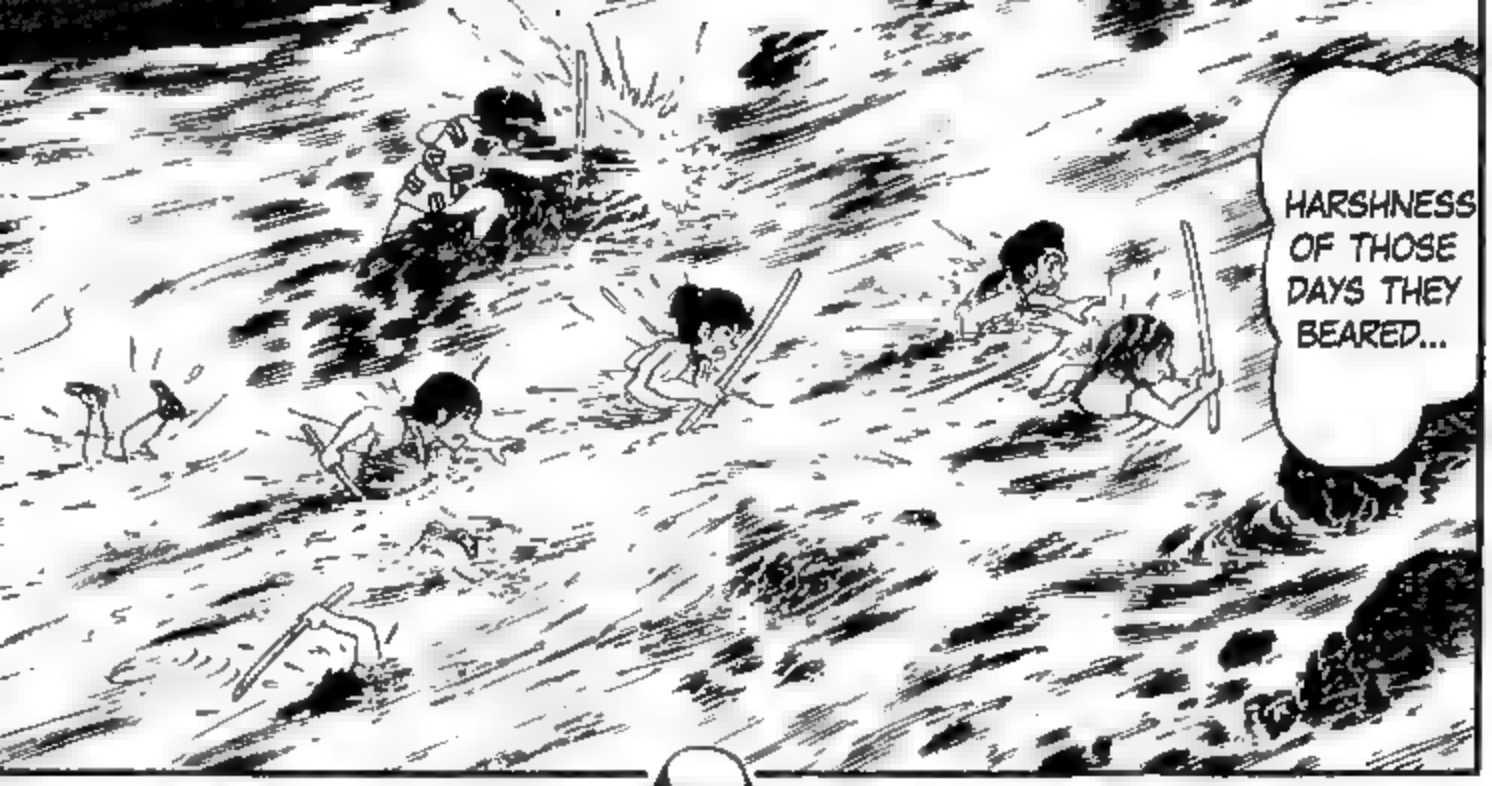
LET'S SEE HOW LONG WE CAN
GO ON LIVING YOU AND I!!
KO-MORO
AWA
NACHI ...


NA-GARA
YURA
HIEI
AMAGI

.....
UKIHA, HYŪGA...
.....


TO ATONE !?
HOW TO ATONE TO THEM...
WHEN I THOUGHT...

FOR THE...
FOR THEIR...


HARSHNESS OF THOSE DAYS THEY BEARED...

FOR THE DREAMS THEY HAD...
AS PROOF THAT THEY WERE BORN AND THAT THEY LIVED...EVEN FOR A SHORT TIME, IN THIS WORLD...

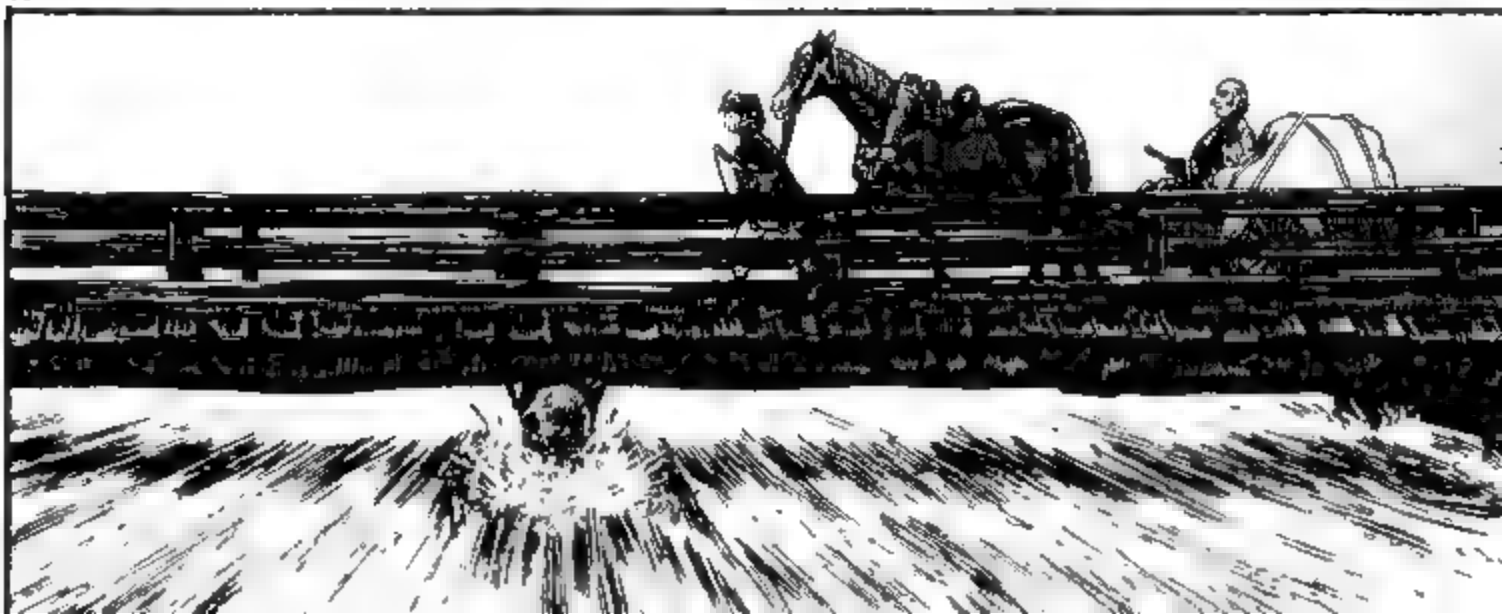
FOR THEIR GREAT DEEDS...
AND THEN FOR THE MISSIONS THEY ACCOM-PLISHED!!

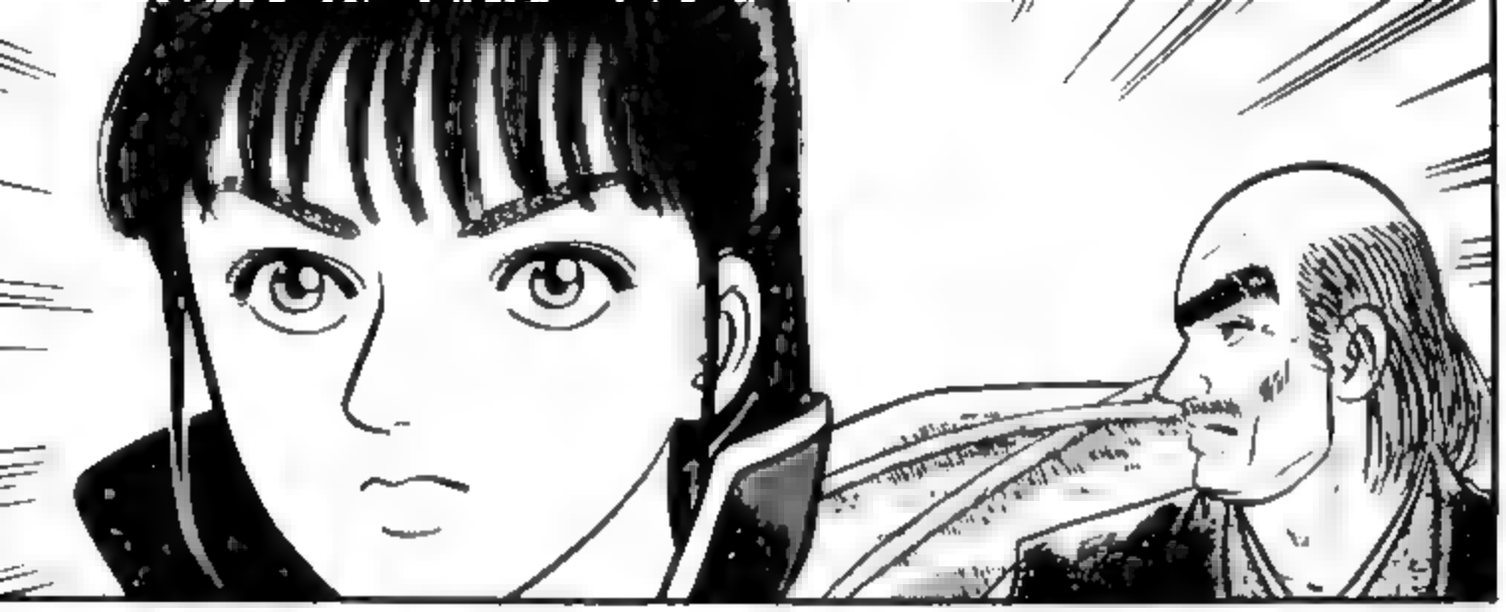
I THOUGHT THAT YOU MUST LIVE ON, IN THIS WORLD,
AZUMI, YOU'LL KEEP ALL OF THAT INSIDE YOUR HEART!!
AND A PART OF THEM WILL LIVE ON TOGETHER WITH YOU TOO!!

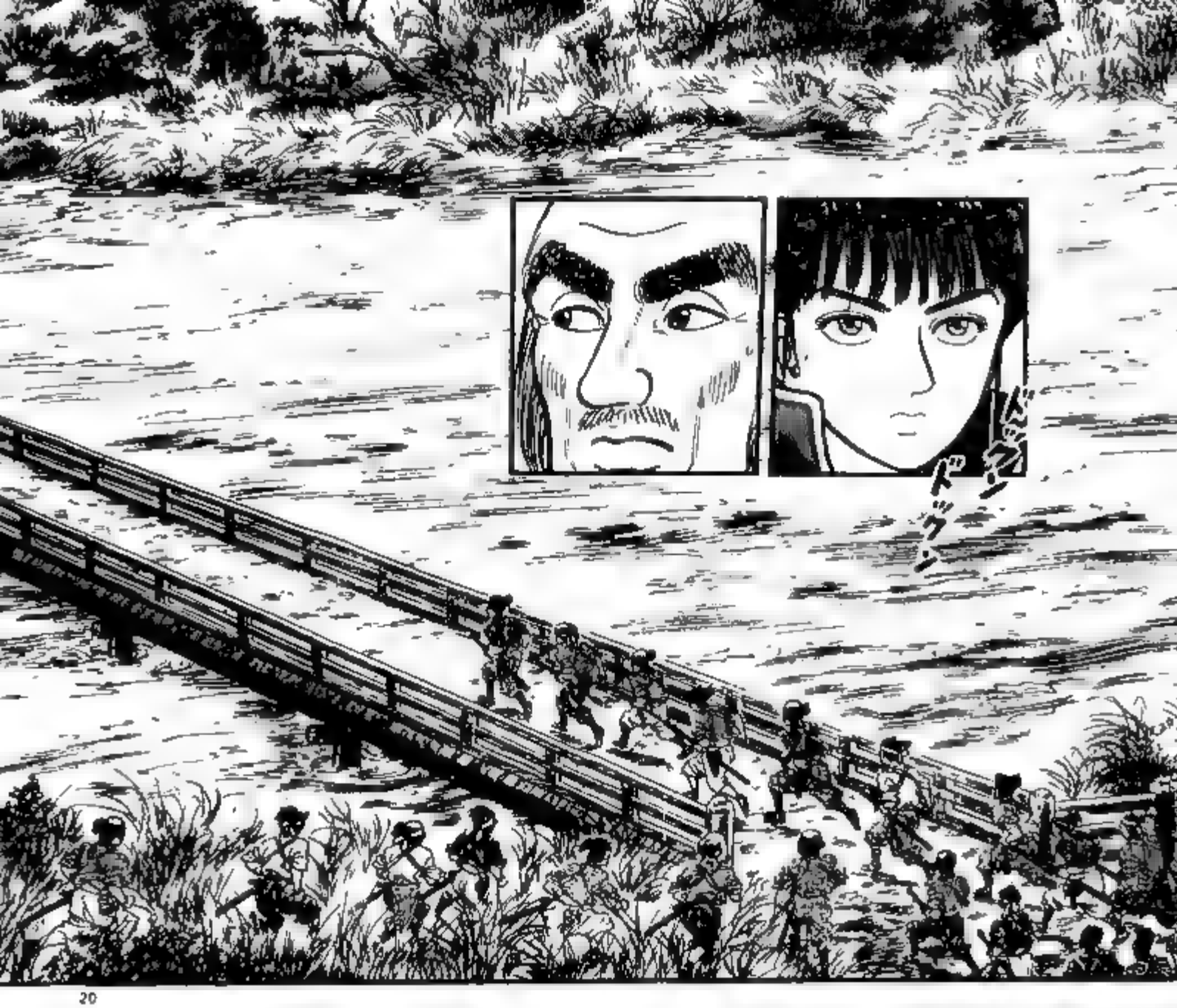
AND WITH YOU TOO, RIGHT, GRAMPA !?
.....
.....
THAT'S RIGHT !!
.....

.....
THEY'LL LIVE FOREVER INSIDE US!!
YES!!

WHAT AMAZINGLY HIGH WATER. WILL IT BE ALRIGHT!? THE BRIDGE SEEMS THAT IT'S GOING TO BE WASHED AWAY...



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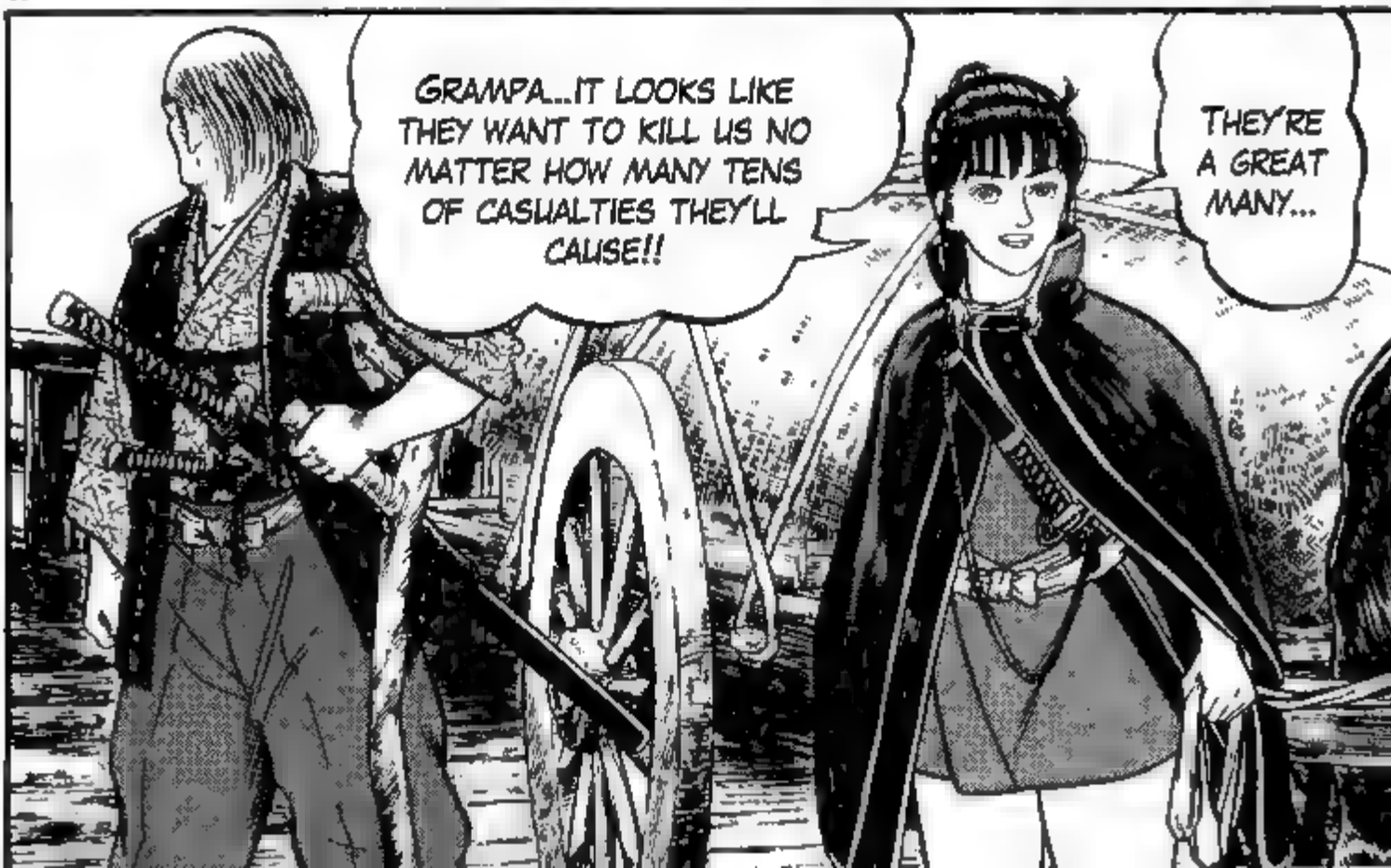
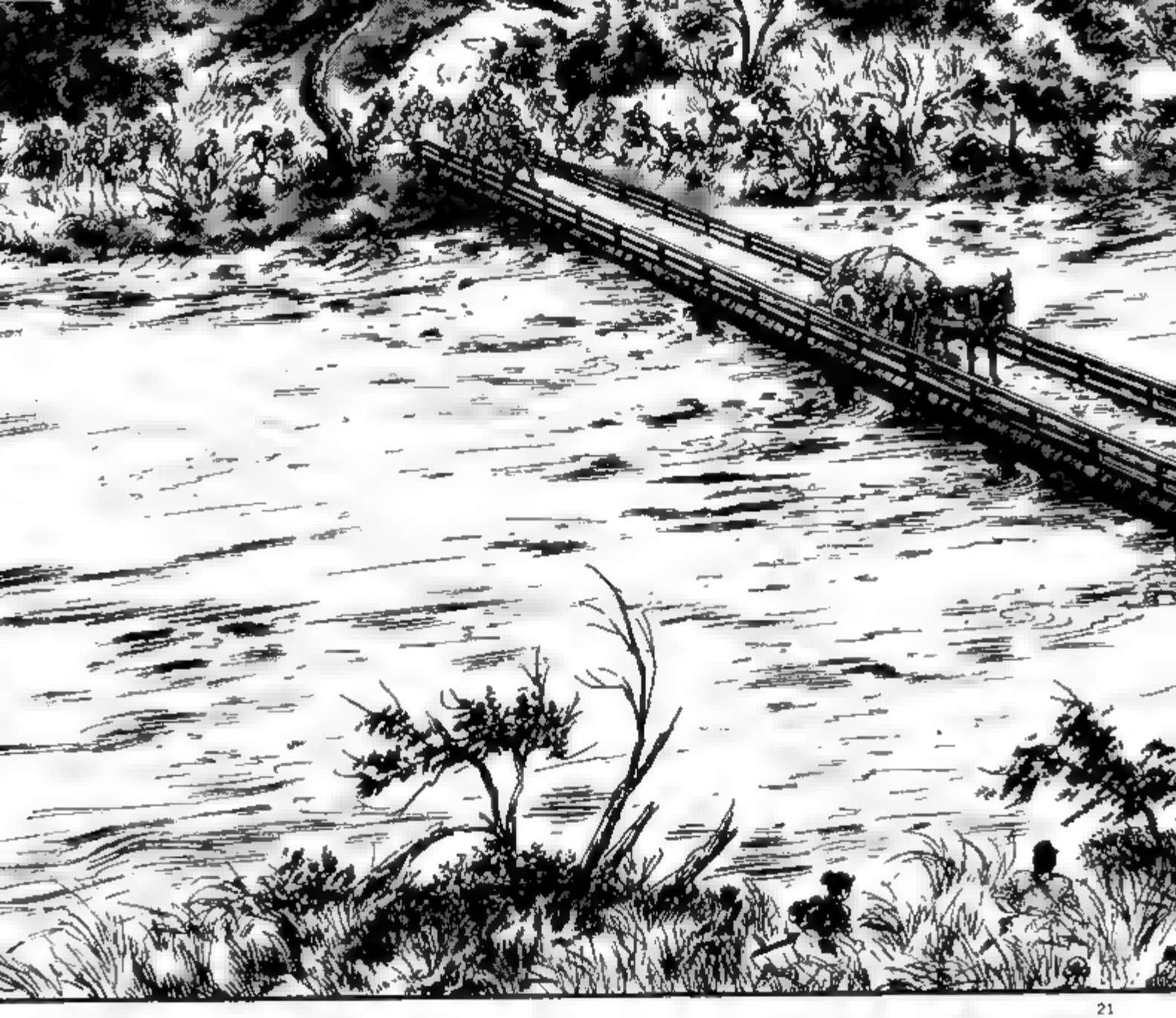

GRAMPA...IT LOOKS LIKE THEY WANT TO KILL US NO MATTER HOW MANY TENS OF CASUALTIES THEY'LL CAUSE!!
THEY'RE A GREAT MANY...



UNDER-
STOOD!!
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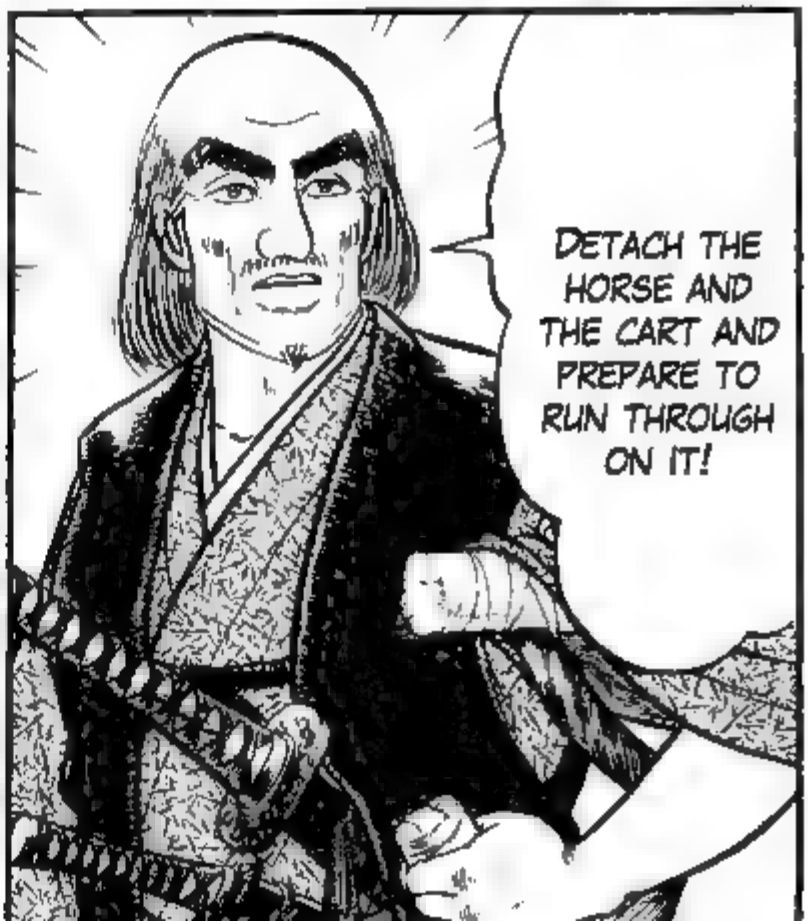
ドッ
クン


DETACH THE HORSE AND THE CART AND PREPARE TO RUN THROUGH ON IT!

THEY WERE ALL INFORMED TO IMMEDIATELY RETTREAT WHEN THEY KILL OBATA GESSAI ALONE, RIGHT!?
KILL ONLY OBATA GESSAI, WITHOUT HURTING THAT GIRL!!

THEY ALL KNOW ABOUT IT!!
YES!!

GRAMPA, GET ON THE HORSE ALREADY,
I'LL LEAD THE WAY AND CLEAVE THROUGH!!
ドンク

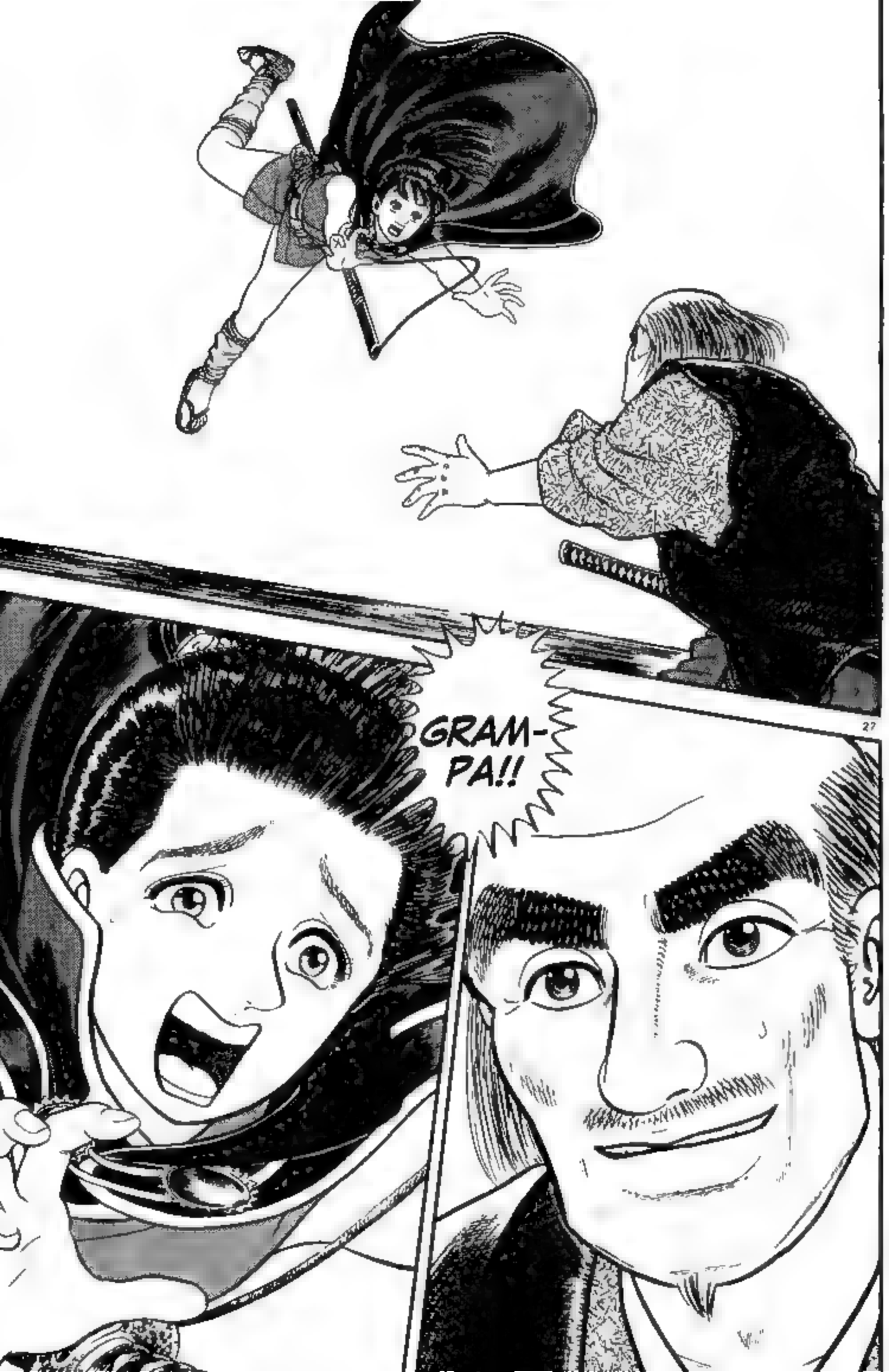
THE ONE ON TOP INSIDE THAT GROUP ON HORSES...
YOU SHOW YOUR FACE AT LAST, LEADER OF OUR ENEMIES...
I'M GOING TO SEE WHO YOU ARE!

GRAMPA, GET ON THE HORSE!!

QUICK !!
AZUMI.
ドッ
ドッ

LIVE, GO ON LIVING TO THE UTMOST!!

YOU MUST LIVE!!


GRAM-
PA!!

GRAMPAAA!!

GRAMPA!
LIVE ON, AZUMI...

Azumi
CHAPTER 60
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

GRAMPAAA!!

30

I MUST SEE THE REAL IDENTITY OF THE ENEMY WITH MY OWN EYES!!
I WON'T GET KILLED WITHOUT PUTTING UP A FIGHT!

Chapter 2:
The Wounded
Lion

GRAMPA...

.....YES.....
WHAT'RE YOU DOING? KAZUMA, DO YOUR PART!!

WELL NOW...
HIS SEPARATION FROM THE GIRL IS THE BEST POSSIBILITY WE COULD ASK FOR
WE WERE PREPARED FOR CASUALTIES, BUT NOW THEY'LL BE CONSIDERABLY REDUCED.
WITH THAT LEG, WE SHOULD KILL HIM WITH JUST A FEW SACRIFICES.
パ
パカラッ
パカラッ

IS YAGYŪ MUNENORI THE ENEMY LEADER...!? OR SOMEONE WHO'S INVOLVED HIM...!?
THESE SAMURAI STANCES... ARE ALL FROM YAGYŪ SHINKAGERYŪ ...

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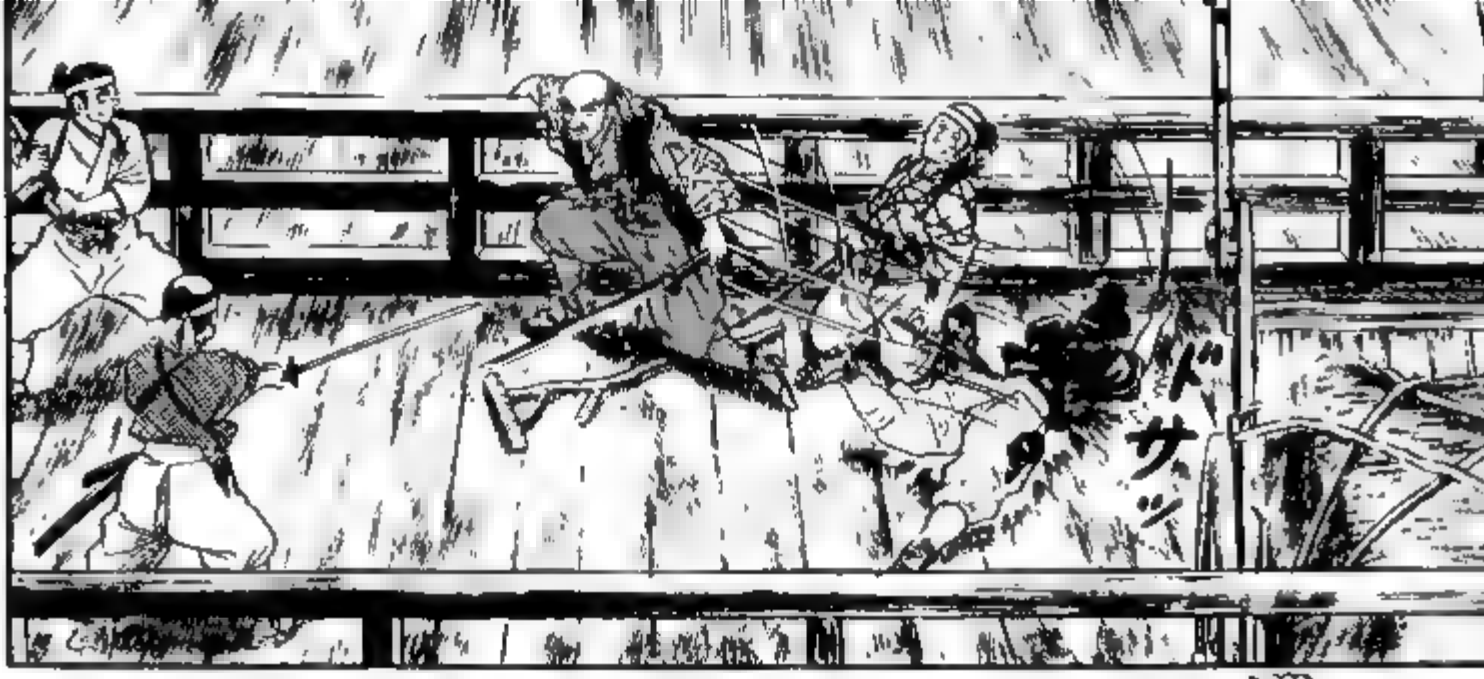
ドサッ

HANE
HANE
PANT-
PANT
QUITE GOOD, OLD MAN!!
HE KILLED THREE MEN!!

WE CAN KILL HIM IN NO TIME ON A BRIDGE!!
NO WAY!! INSTEAD OF HAVING HIM RUNNING AWAY IN A MOUNTAIN OR IN A THICKET,
HE SUBSTITUTED THE CANE WITH THE HANDRAIL, MOREOVER. IF HE GIVES HIS BACK TO THE RIVER, ENEMIES WON'T POSITION BEHIND HIM...
DIDN'T YOU GIVE HIM AN ADVANTAGE WITH AN ASSAULT ON A BRIDGE?!

WELL, HE'S GOING TO RECEIVE AN ATTACK FROM FOUR MEN AT THE SAME TIME.
IT WILL BE A SIGHT WORTH SEEING !

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ヒュッ
ハッ
ハッ
ハッ

AHAHAHA

GRAM-PA...
GRAM-PA...
COO
THOUGH SHE'S SWIMMING TO THE BANK, SHE'S HAVING DIFFICULTY IN THIS SWIFT CURRENT...

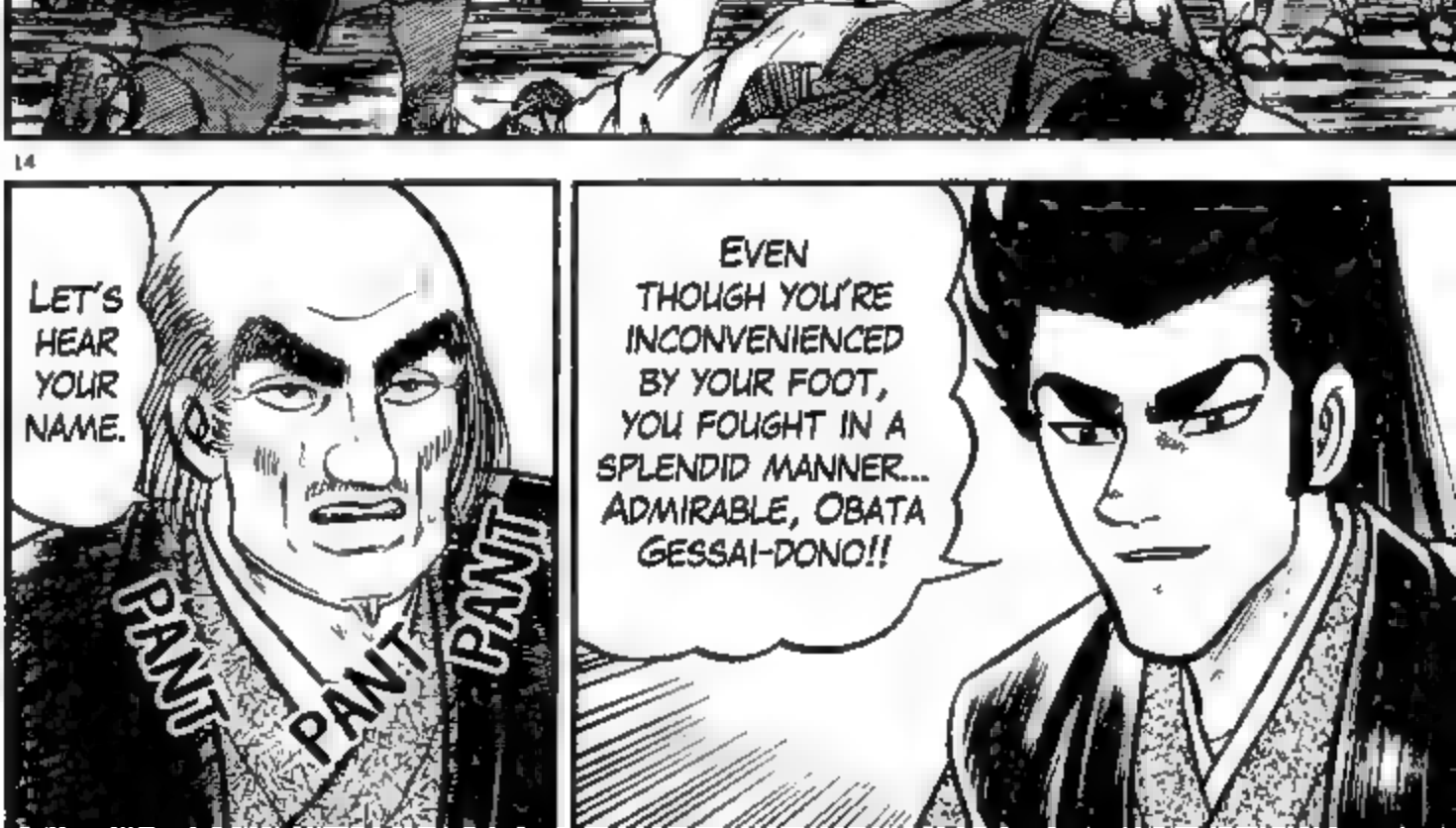
THERE'LL ONLY BE INCREASED, POINTLESS CASUALTIES.
THEIR SKILLS ARE POOR.

I'LL GO SETTLE THINGS!!
NO, KILLING HIM ON A BRIDGE WAS A STRATEGY I SUGGESTED.
ALL RIGHT!! I'LL GO!!

STEP ASIDE!!

HEY, MOVE ASIDE!!
IT'S JIN'-ICHIRŌ-SAMA !!

OOH!!
AH!!
MOVE!!


LET'S HEAR YOUR NAME.
PANT
PANT
PANT
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE INCONVENIENCED BY YOUR FOOT, YOU FOUGHT IN A SPLENDID MANNER... ADMIRABLE, OBATA GESSAI-DONO!!

.....
YAGYŪ SHINKAGERYŪ, TAKAGAKI JIN'ICHIRŌ. I'LL BE YOUR OPPONENT!!

SHOW ME YOUR FACE!!
YAGYŪ MUNE-NORI-DONO!!

MUNENORI-DONO'S SWORD OF THE EDO YAGYŪ WAS STAINED WITH LUST FOR POWER!
THEY SAY THAT AFTER THE OWARI YAGYŪ (LEGITIMATE SUCCESSOR: HYŌSUKE, CALLED YAGYŪ HYŌGONOSUKE AFTER) WAS DECIDED AS THE TRUE YAGYŪ SHINKAGERYŌ,

DON'T BELONG TO SOMEONE WHO MASTERED THE SWORD!!
AND THESE METHODS!! THEY SURELY

SHOW YOUR-SELF WITHOUT HESITATION, YAGYŪ MUNENORI!!
ARE THESE DIRTY TRICKS HOW THE EDO YAGYŪS CONDUCT THEM-SELVES!?

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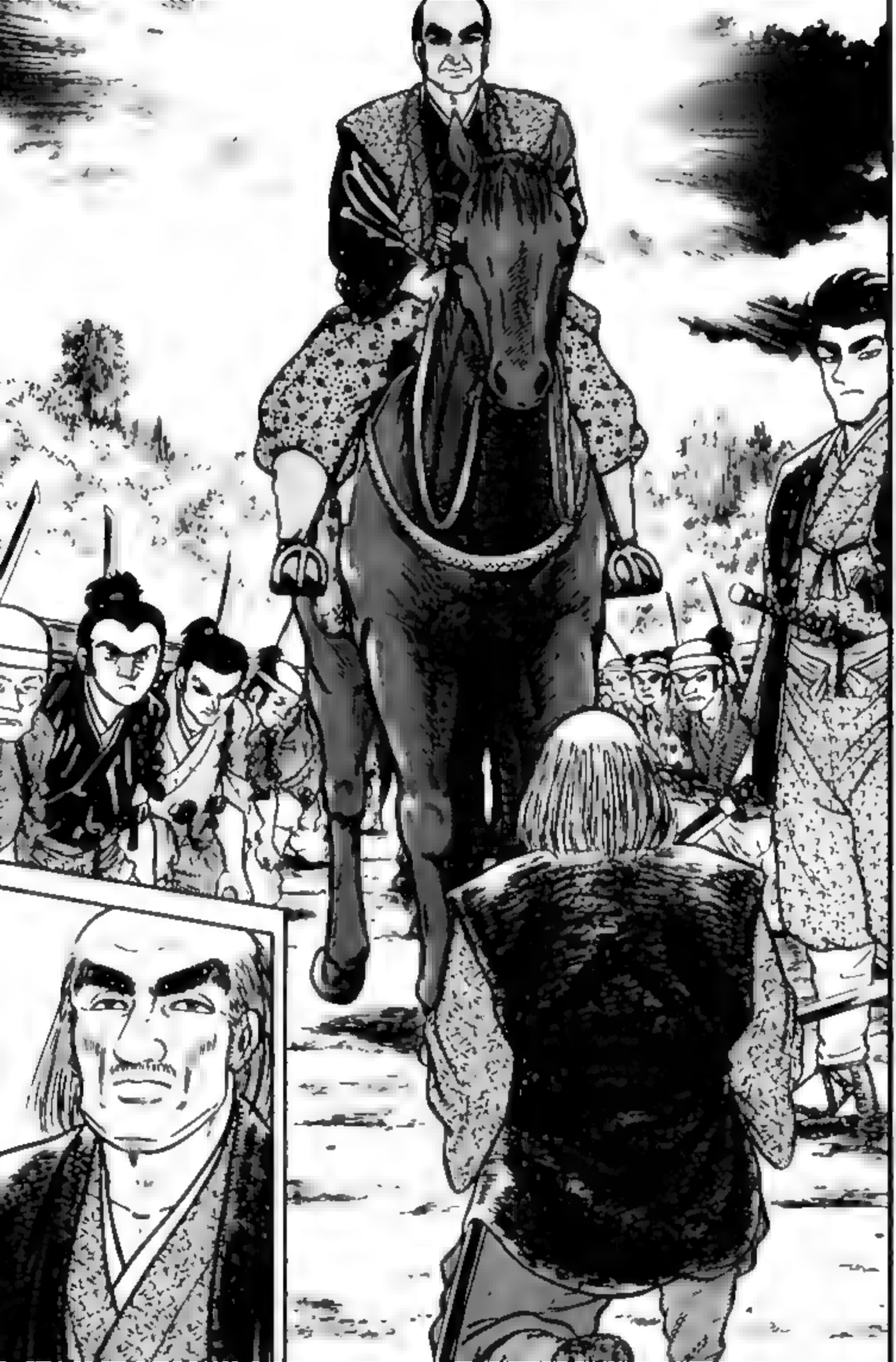
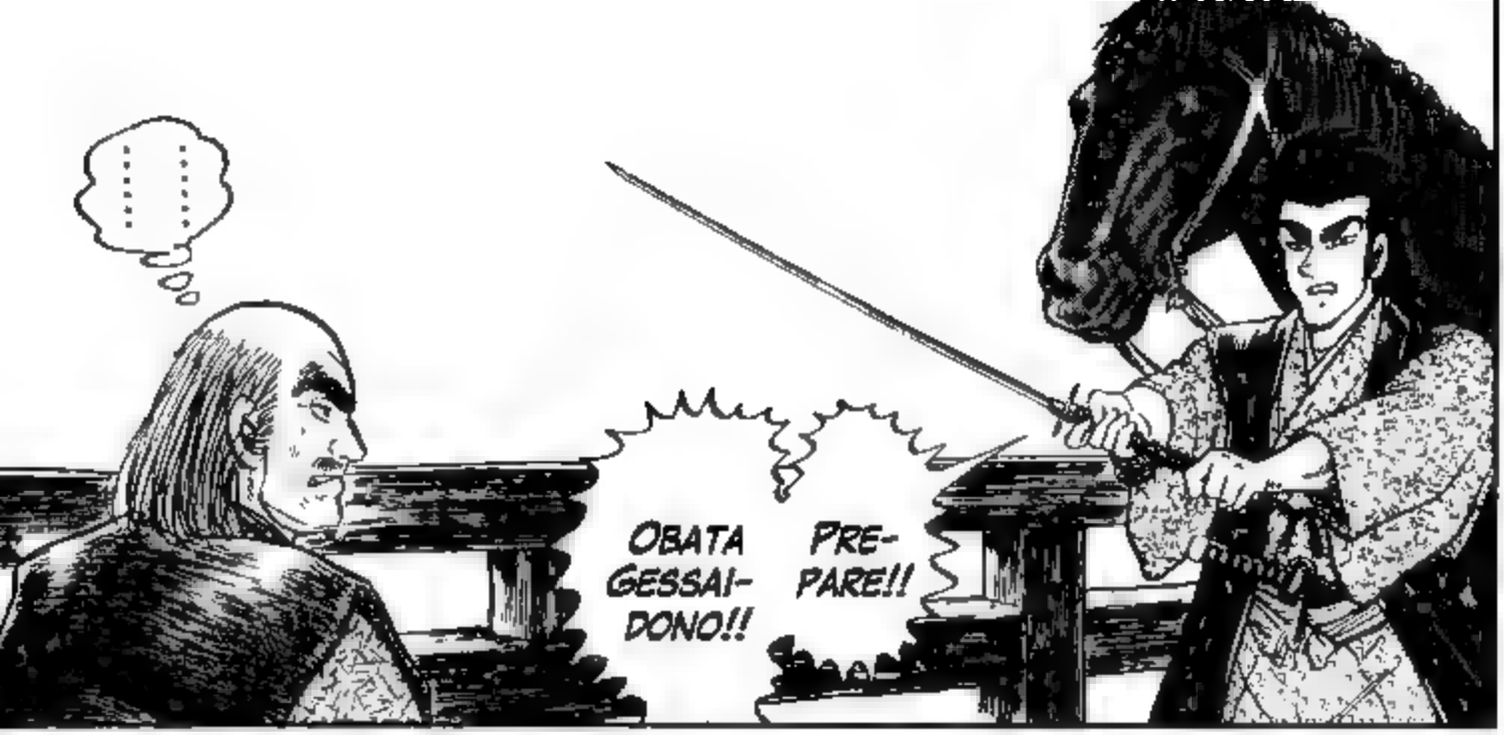
カッ



INDEED I AM!!
ARE YOU YAGYŌ MUNENORI-DONO?

.....
WHAT'S THE TRUE MOTIVE FOR YOU WANTING TO KILL US!?

YOU CAN THINK ABOUT IT WITH LEISURE IN THE OTHER WORLD!!
REMAIN A MYS-TERY...
THAT WILL...


.....
OBATA GESSAI-DONO!!
PRE-PARE!!

SHA!!

ﾀﾞﾝ
ﾋｭﾝ

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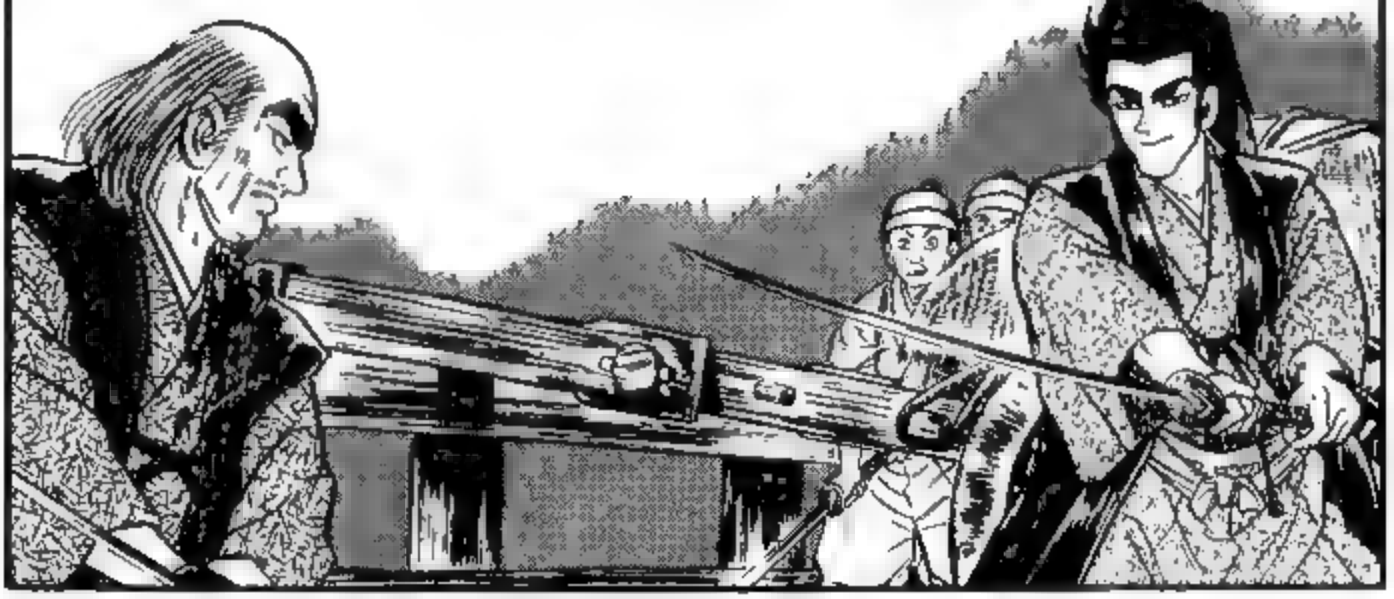
ト

Azumi
CHAPTER 61
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

Chapter 3: Grampa And Munenori



NO MATTER HOW GREAT A MASTER HE IS, ON ONE KNEE HIS MOVEMENTS ARE DELAYED AND HE NEEDS TO TWIST HIS BODY...
UHM...
BUT THERE'S NO WAY I'LL DIE WITHOUT LAYING A SINGLE STRIKE ON MUNENORI HERE!
THIS MAN... IS CAPA-BLE.

ギャリ
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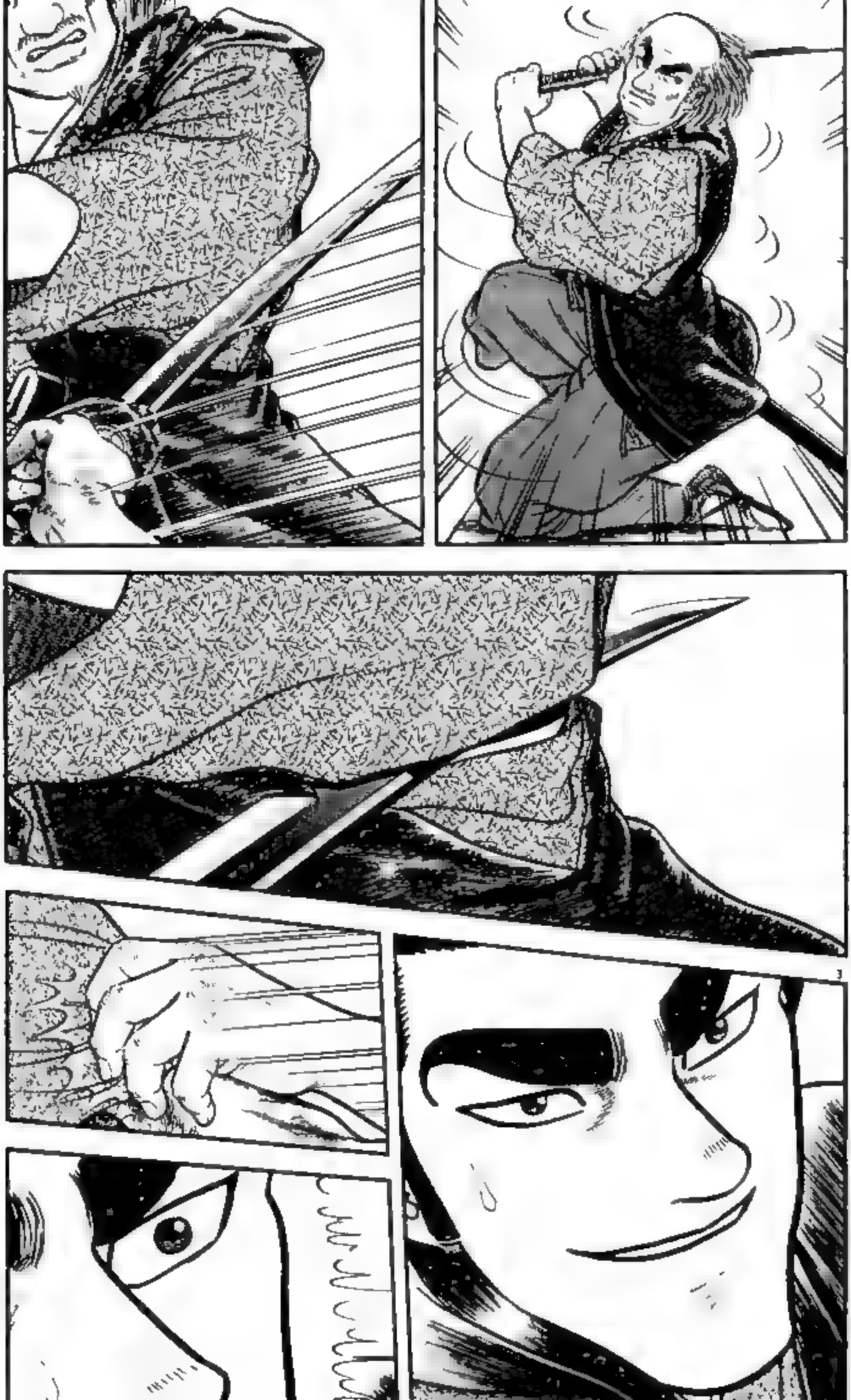


AAAAAH!!
BROTHER
JIIIIN!!

CURSE YOUUUUUU!!!

JŌJIRŌ, SHINSUKE, YOU TOO, RETREAT!!
WITH-DRAW!!
CARRY THE BODIES AND
BROTHER JIN...
IT WAS DIS-COURTEOUS TO ALLOW ONE OF MY PEONS BE YOUR OPPO-NENT.
WHAT IMPRES-SIVE SKILL.
I WILL FIGHT YOU.
BRO-THER JIIIIN ...

HANF HANF HANF
HANF
PANT
PANT
SHIT!!
I WAS WASHED AWAY SO FAR!!
PANT
PANT
I CAN'T SEE THE BRIDGE...

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
HANF
HANF
HANF
GRAMPA...
GRAMPA...

YAGYŪ MUNE-NORI,
IS THIS YOUR TREACH-ERY!?
OR WERE YOU INVOLVED BY SOMEONE ELSE!?

THE YAGYŪS HAVE NO SELF-INTER-ESTS!!
WE'RE SATISFIED TO BE THE CORNERSTONE OF TOKUGAWA PROSPERITY!!
THIS TOO, OBVIOUSLY, WAS A DECREE THAT I RECEIVED AT SUNPU!!

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

PANT PANT
DON'T GET YOURSELF KILLED...!!
PANT PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
GRAM-PA, DON'T DIE...!

THAT YOU TOOK UNDER YOUR WING AND RAISED UP IS A MAGNIFICENT ASSASSIN...
THAT GIRL...

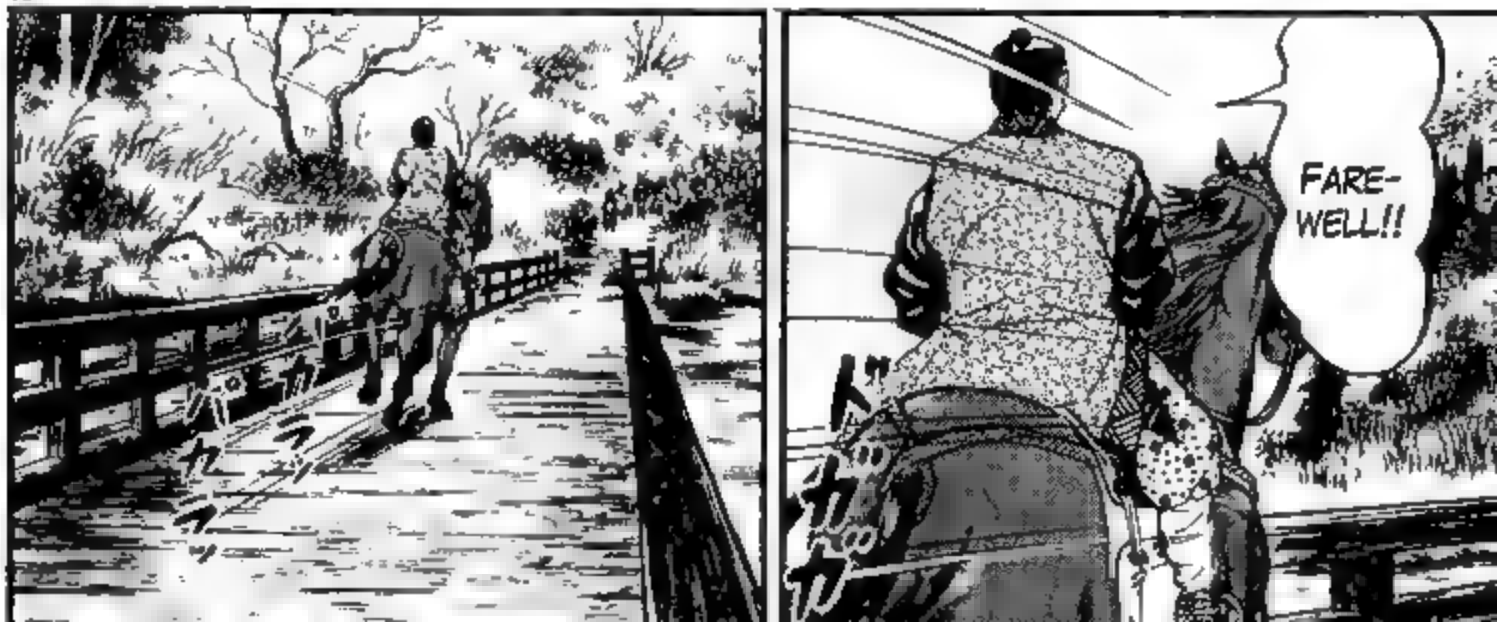
I'LL AT LEAST SHOW SOME COMPASSION...
YOU WANT TO SPEND WITH HER YOUR LAST MOMENTS, RIGHT?
AND REFRAIN FROM THE FINISHING BLOW.
SOON, SHE'LL REACH THE BANK AND SHE'LL COME RUNNING HERE DESPERATELY...
PANT
PANT
PANT

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
YOU WANT TO DIE WITH THAT GIRL WHO YOU RAISED
LIKE SHE WAS YOUR OWN DAUGH-TER
BY YOUR SIDE, RIGHT?
PANT
PANT
PANT

HOW-EVER...

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
ARE THOSE WOUNDS TOO DEEP?
WITH SUCH BLEED-ING...
WILL YOUR LIFE REALLY LAST UNTIL THAT GIRL
COMES RUNNING...?

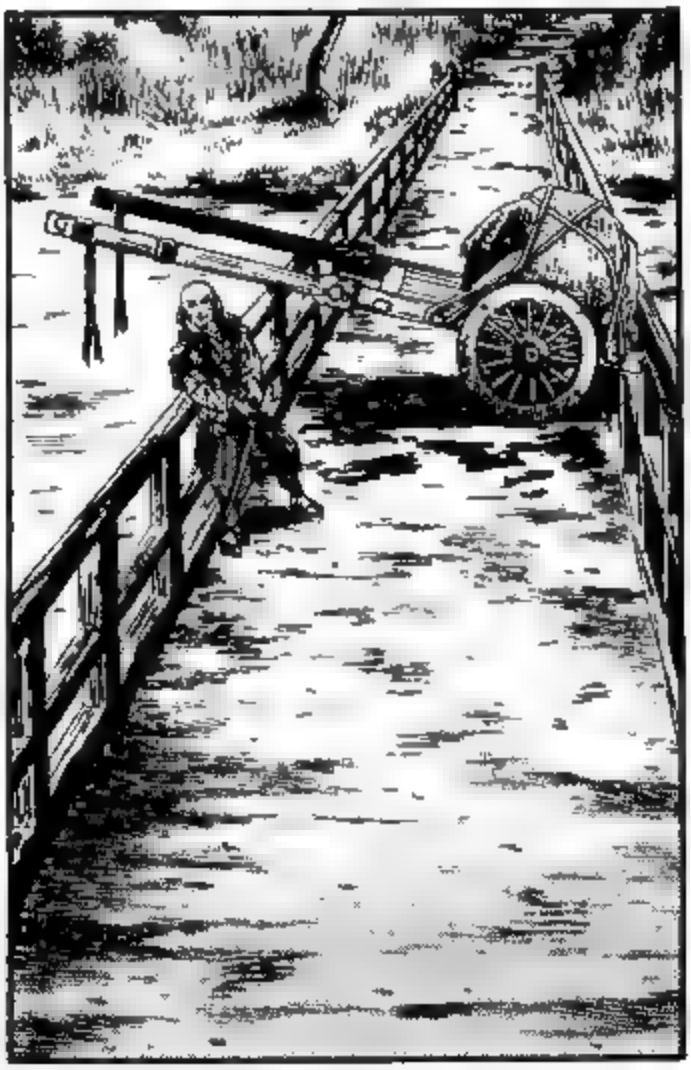
IT WON'T LAST AT ALL...
PANT
PANT
PANT
OR NOT...?


FARE-WELL!!

PANT
PANT
PANT

WAS HIS GOAL... JUST MY LIFE!?
IS HE RE-TREATING... WITHOUT TARGETING AZUMI'S LIFE!?
W-WHY!?
PANT
PANT
PANT

WHAT'S THE REASON !?



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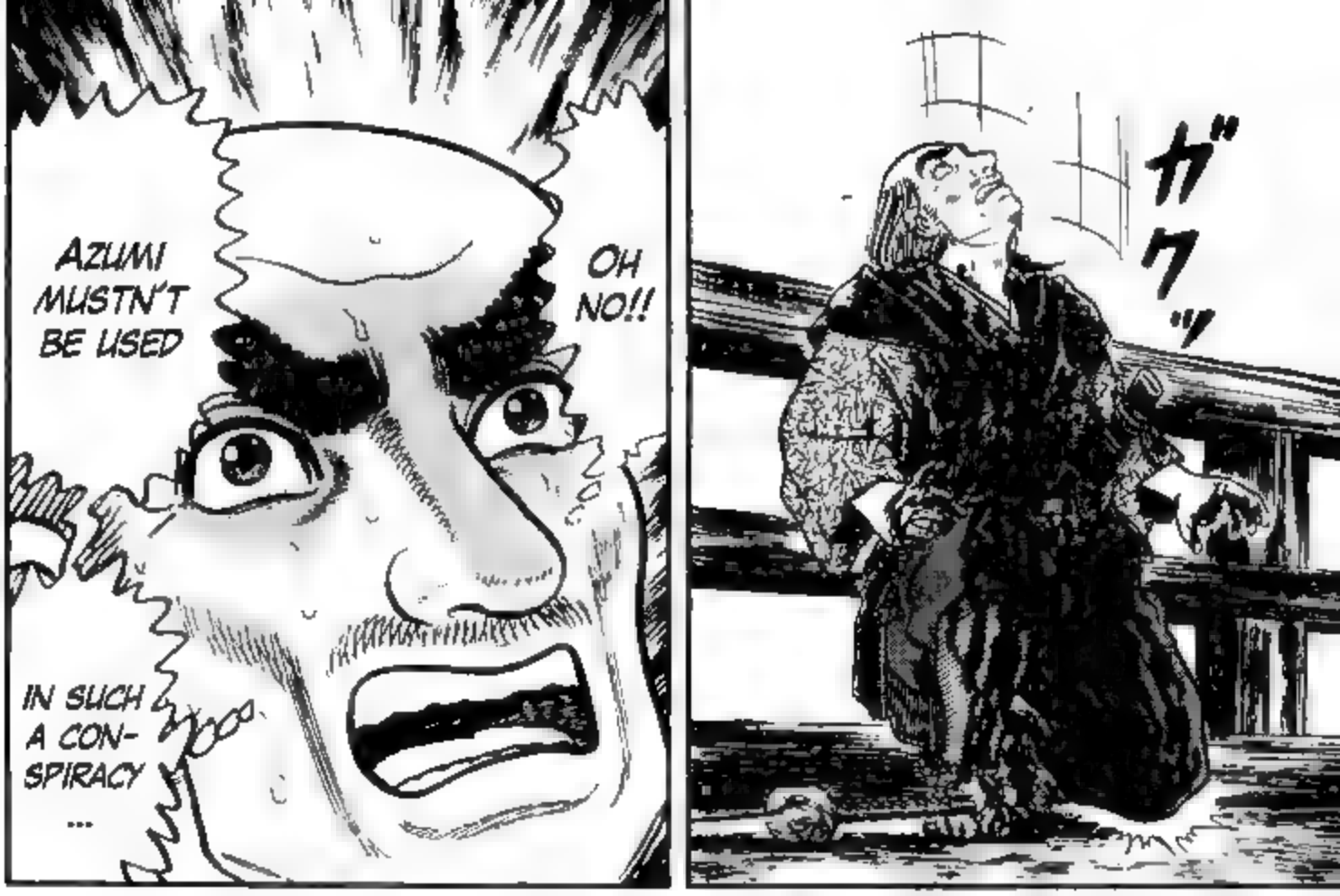
THE YAGYŪS SHOULD BE MORE THAN CAPABLE OF DOING IT ON THEIR OWN...
ANY-WAY, IF IT'S AN ASSASSI-NATION...
PANT
WHO DOES HE WANT TO MAKE AZUMI KILL...?
PANT
PANT
IS HE PLANNING TO USE AZUMI ...?
SO IT MEANS...

!!...I SEE!!
IT'S A PERSON THAT THE YAGYŪS CAN'T KILL...SOMEONE WHO THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL EVER KILL...SO THEY'LL DO IT USING AZUMI...

A DE-CREE!!
BY DE-CREE ...

THEY'RE PLANNING TO MAKE AZUMI ATTEMPT TO KILL HIM!!
MAKING HER BELIEVE THAT IEYASU-DONO HAD ME KILLED,
...IEYASU-DONO!!

AND AFTER THAT, HE'LL TRAP EVEN TENKAI-SAMA...
AND DOING THAT...
THERE'S NO MISTAKE!! MUNENORI ALREADY HAS HIDETADA'S FAVOR...


AZUMI MUSTN'T BE USED
OH NO!!
IN SUCH A CON-SPIRACY ...
ガ"ク"ン

PANT
I MUST LET AZUMI KNOW...
PANT
PANT

I MUSTN'T DIE UNTIL I TELL HER...
I BEG YOU!!
PANT
PANT
KH...
PANT
PANT
HOLD ON UNTIL AZUMI
PANT
RUNS HERE...!!

!!
PANT
PANT
WHAT HAPPENED!? THERE'S NO ONE...
THERE'S THE FIGURE OF A SINGLE PERSON...
AH!! THE CART AND...
PANT
PANT
PANT
27
GRAM-PA...?
HAS G-GRAMPA BEEN KILLED !?
PANT
PANT

AZU!!

A...
N-
NOT
YET...
.....

Azumi
CHAPTER 62
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

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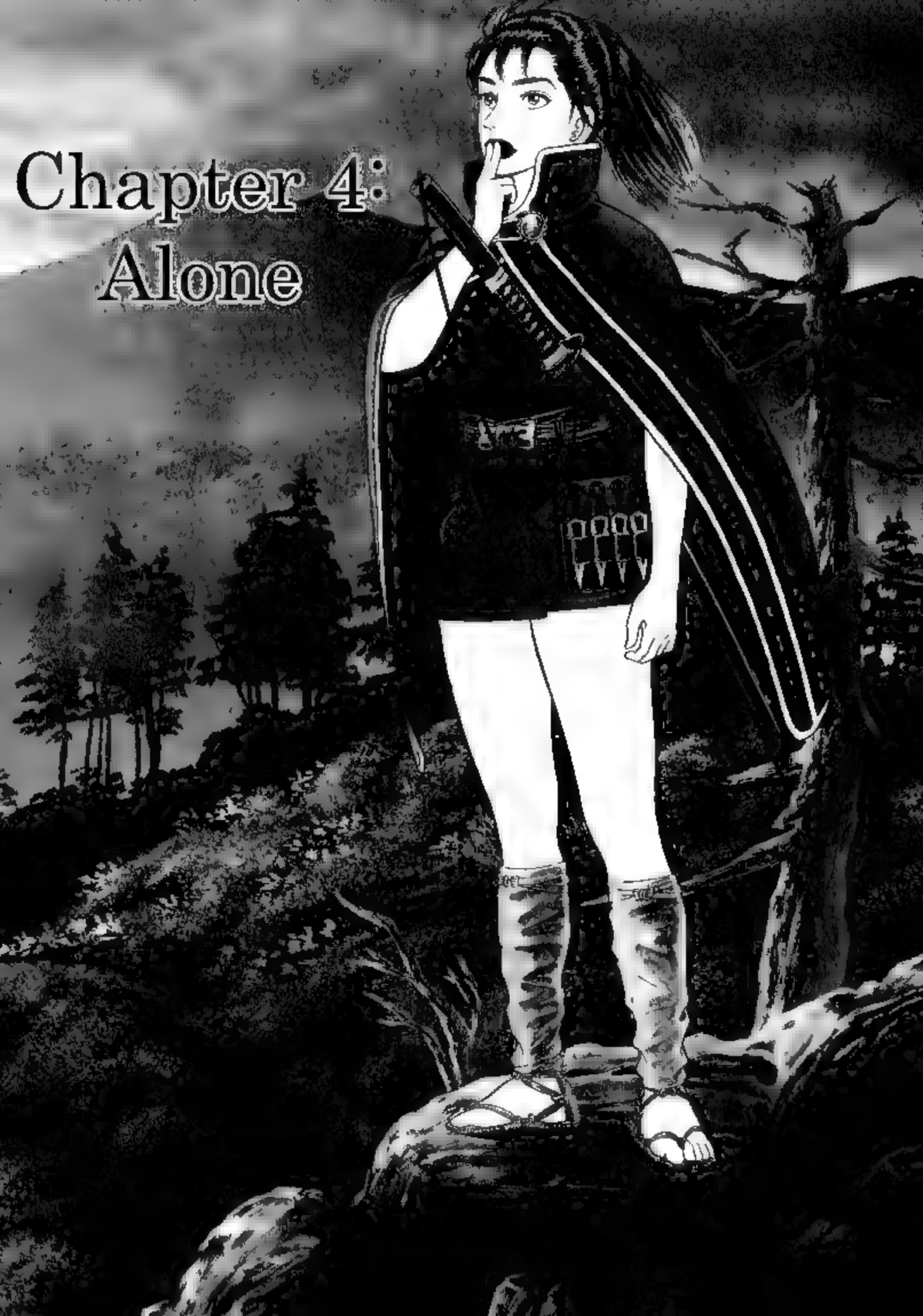
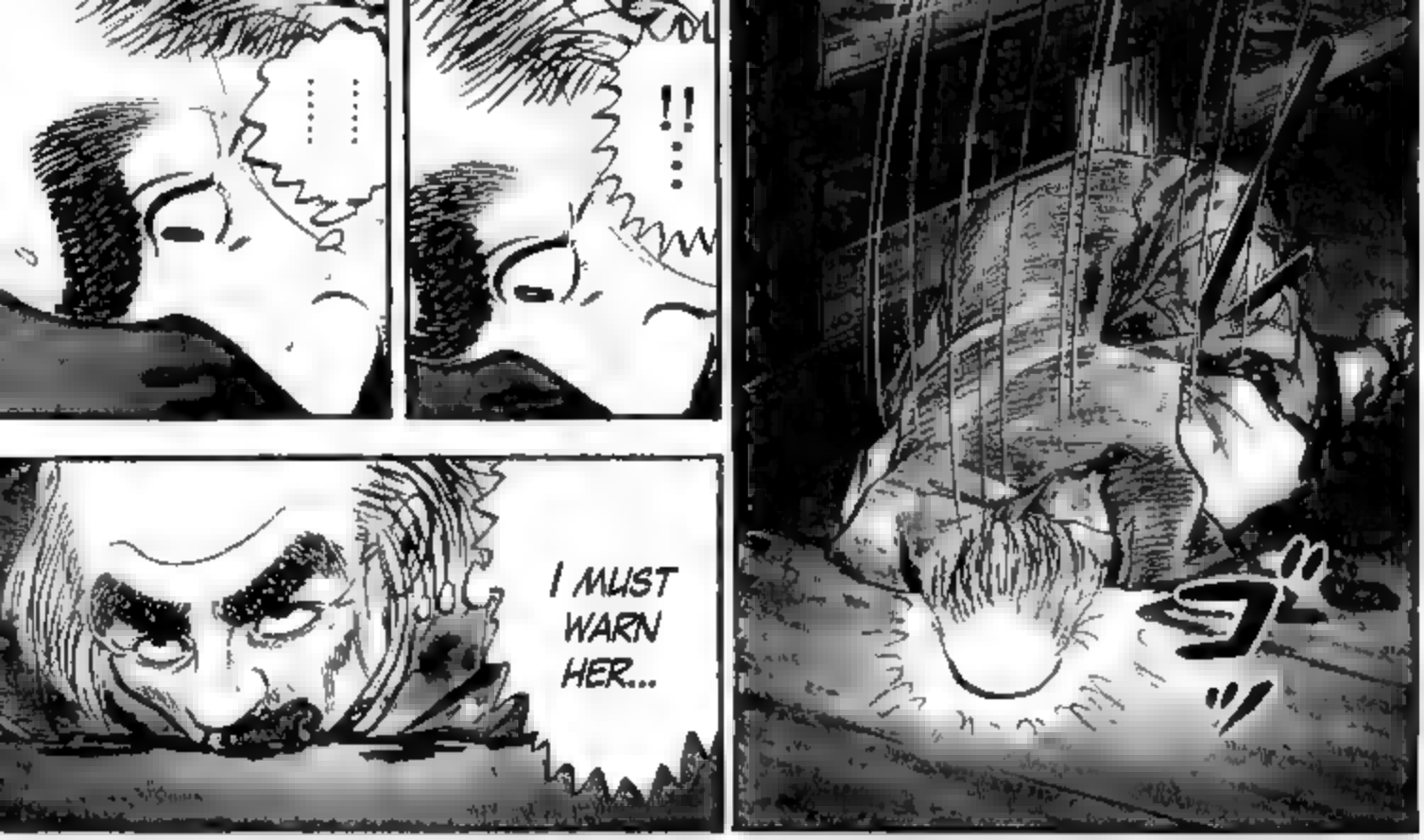
GRAMPA...
GRAMPAAAAA....!!
PANT


Chapter 4:
Alone

LIFE, HOLD ON UNTIL AZUMI GETS HERE!
I BEG YOU!!
HOLD ON!

2

TO KILL IEYASU-DONO...
MUNENORI WILL SUCCESSFULLY SNARE HER IN HIS CONSPIRACY...
I MUST WARN AZUMI OR..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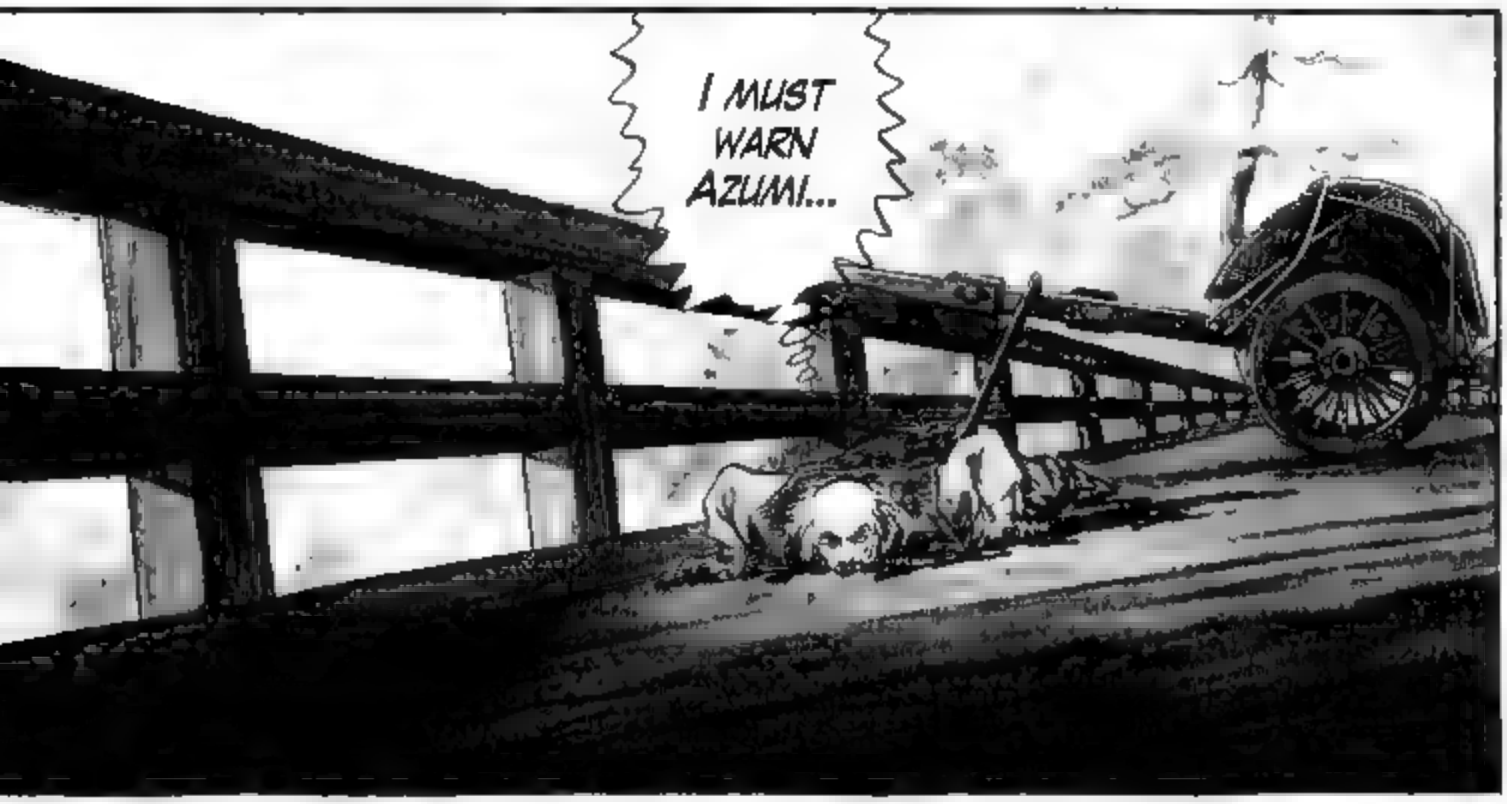
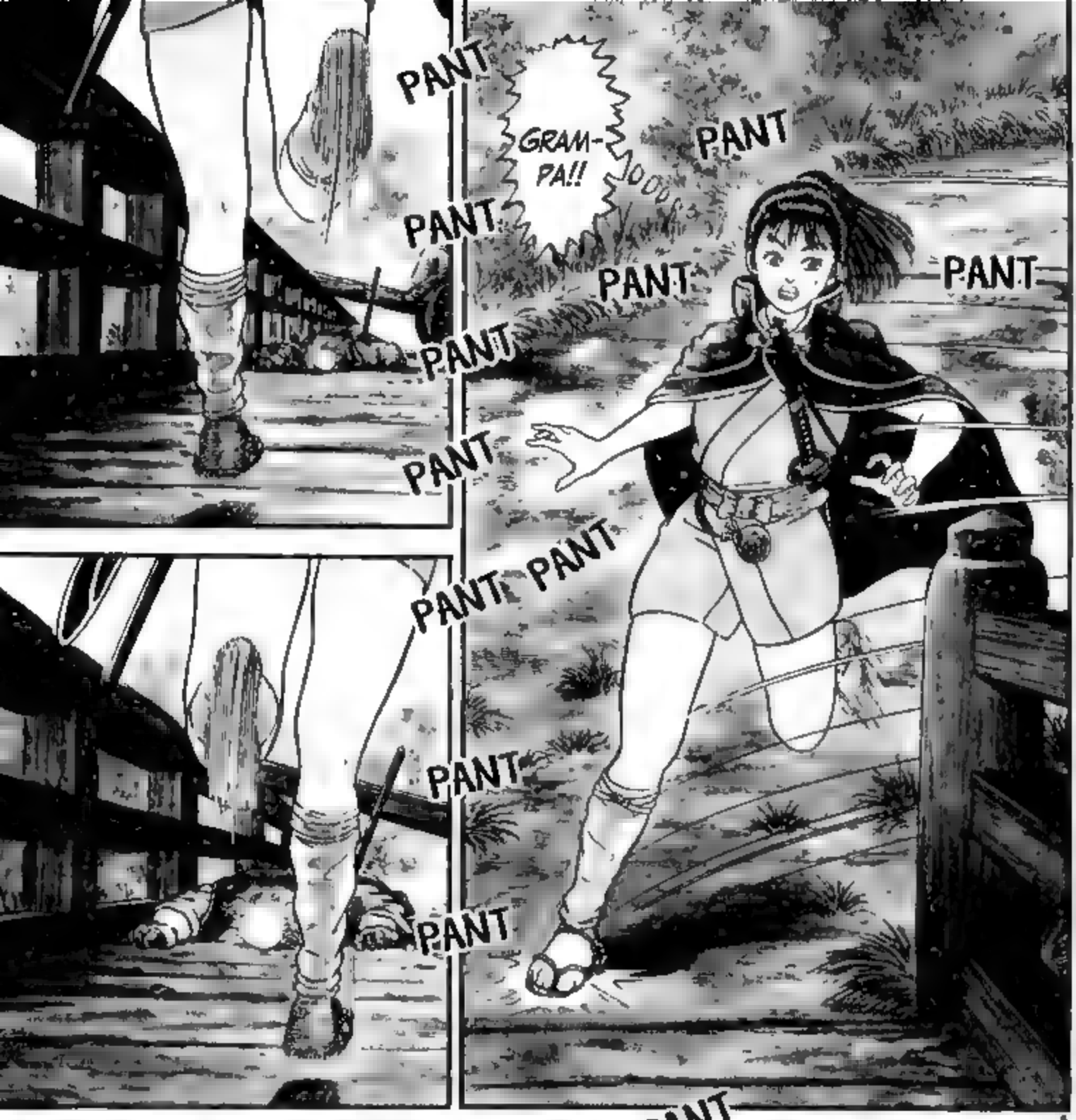
I MUST WARN HER...


I MUST WARN AZUMI...

A...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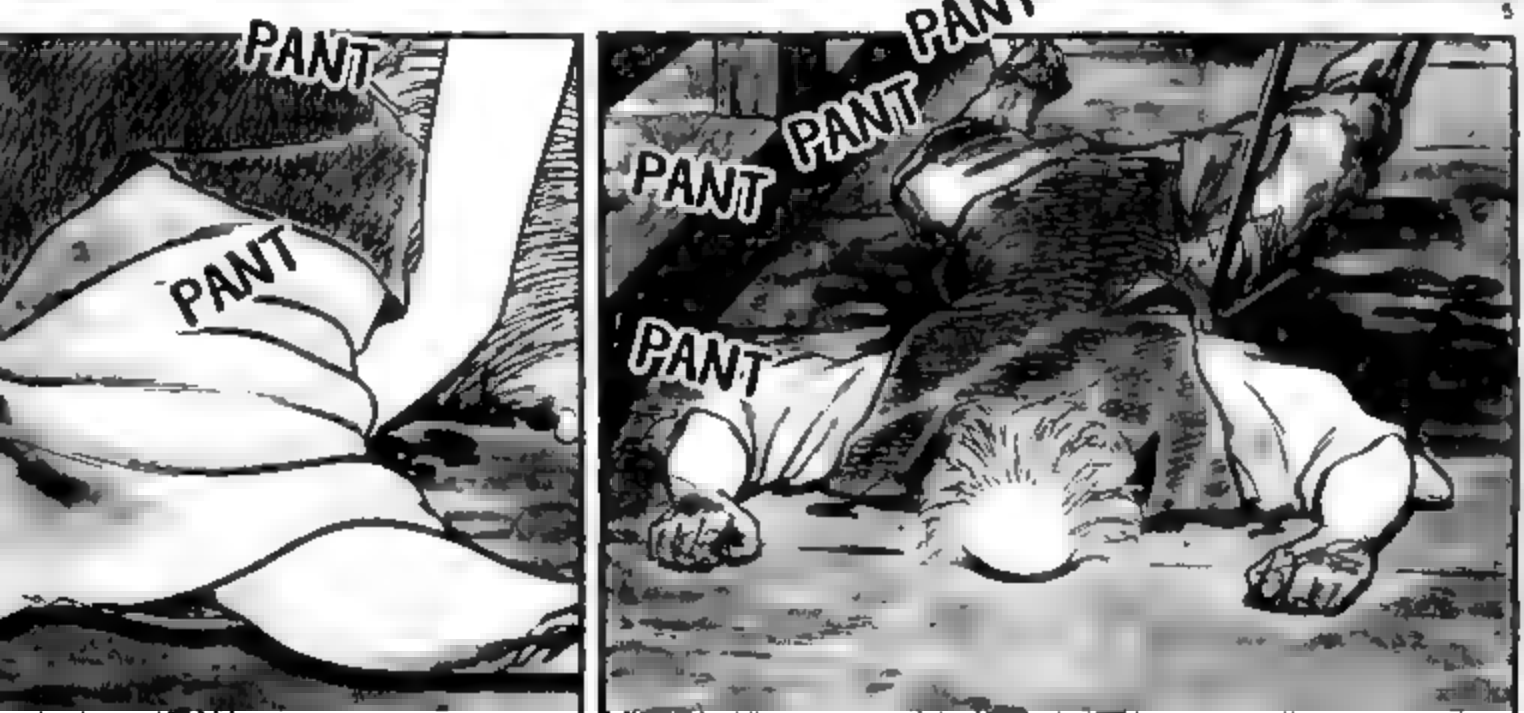
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PANT PANT PANT

PANT PANT PANT

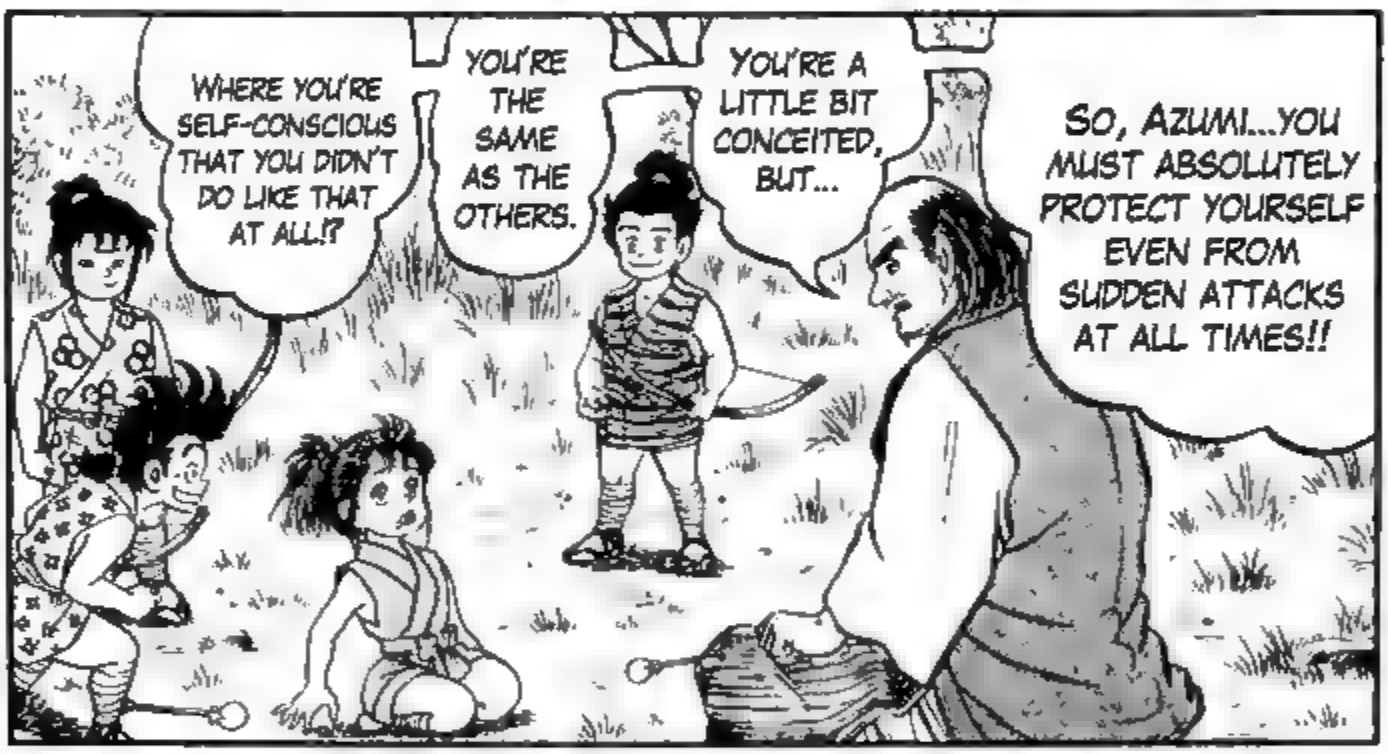
GRAM-PA...

RIGHT WHEN YOU'RE UPSET, SHARPEN YOUR FIVE SENSES!!
DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD!! SHARPEN YOUR FIVE SENSES!!
YOU COULD BE AMONG THE ENEMY!!
AH!!

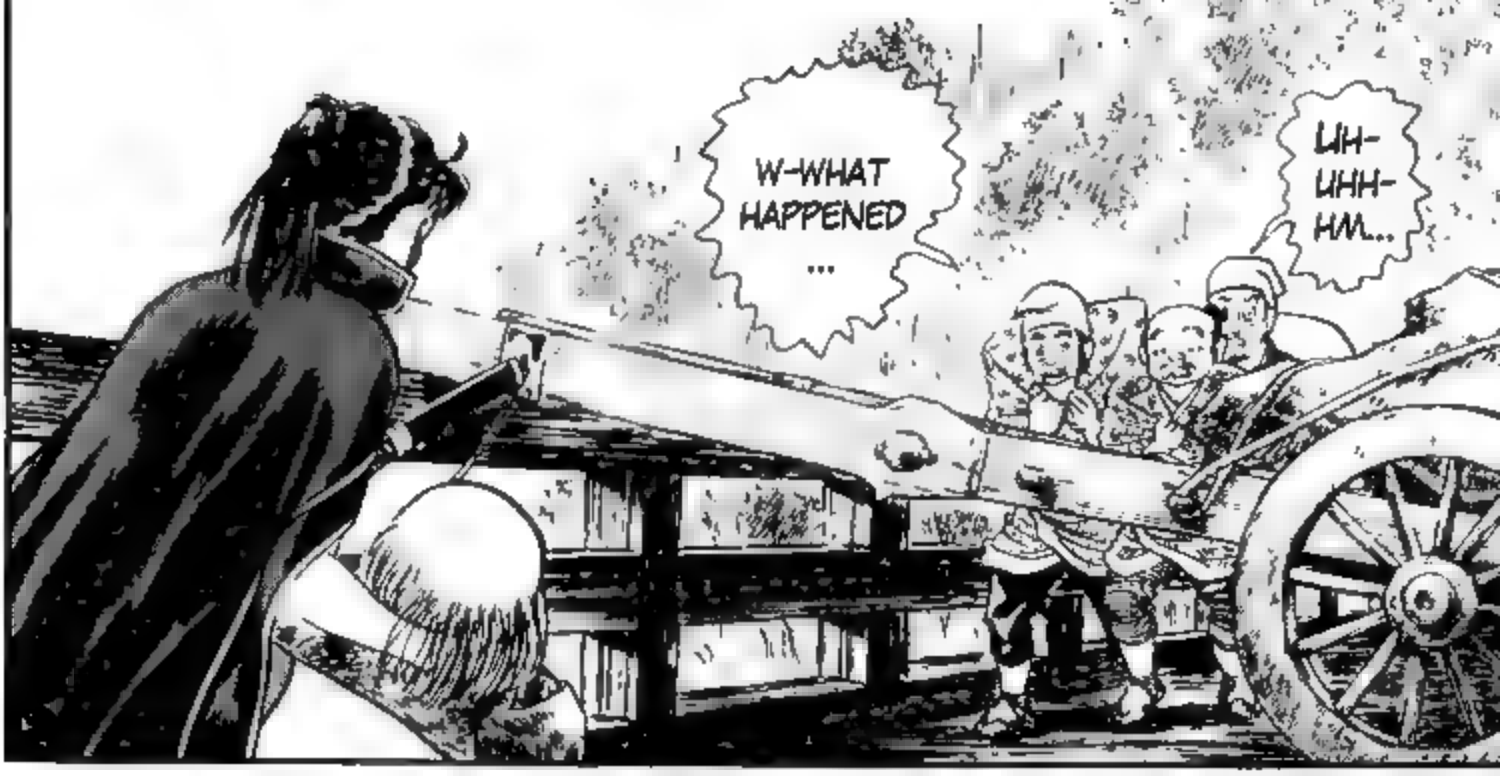
GRAM-
PA!!

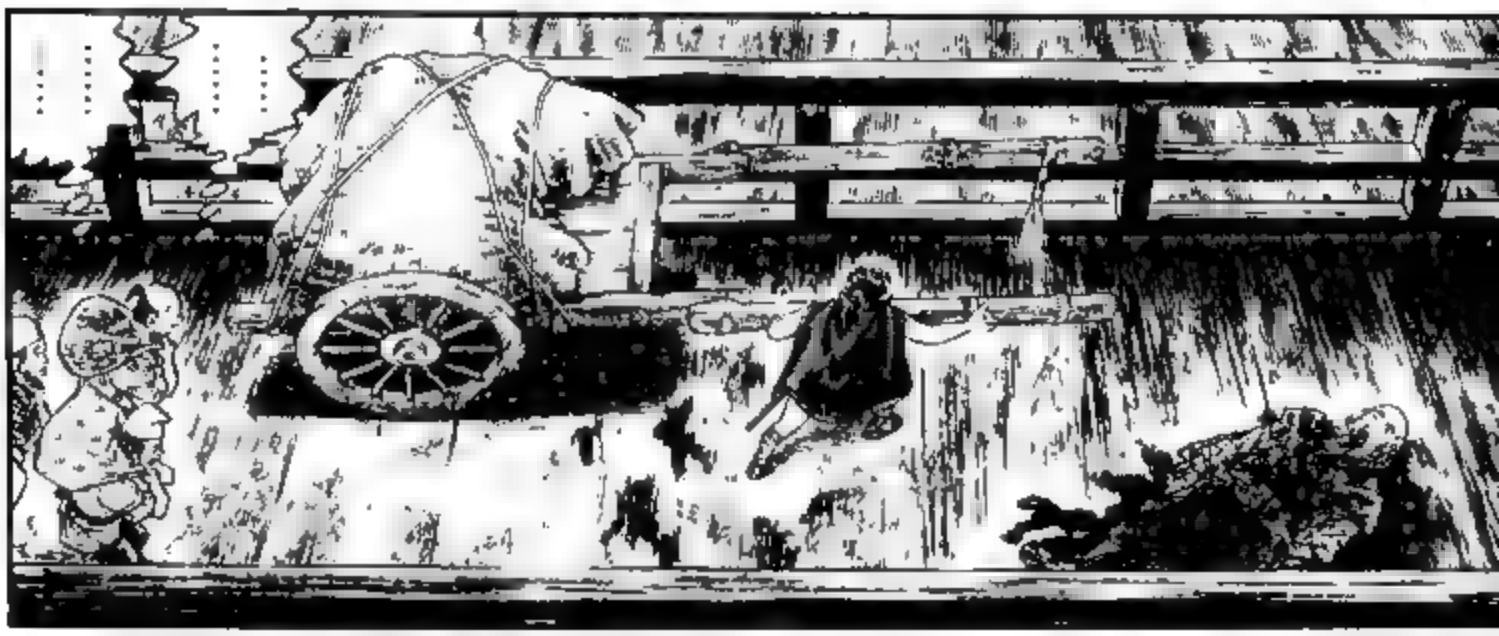
AAAAH!!
G-GRAMPA IS COVERED ALL OVER IN BLOOOOOOD!!
AAAAAH!!
GRAMPAAAAA!!

NOW, YOU'RE DEAD!!
HE HE HEEE!!


WHERE YOU'RE SELF-CONSCIOUS THAT YOU DIDN'T DO LIKE THAT AT ALL!?
YOU'RE THE SAME AS THE OTHERS.
YOU'RE A LITTLE BIT CONCEITED, BUT...
SO, AZUMI...YOU MUST ABSOLUTELY PROTECT YOURSELF EVEN FROM SUDDEN ATTACKS AT ALL TIMES!!

AND BE PREPARED FOR AN ENEMY ATTACK!!
IN THOSE VERY TIMES YOU MUST SHARPEN YOUR SENSES,
LISTEN! NO MATTER WHATEVER MAY HAPPEN AND HOWEVER UPSET YOU MAY BE,

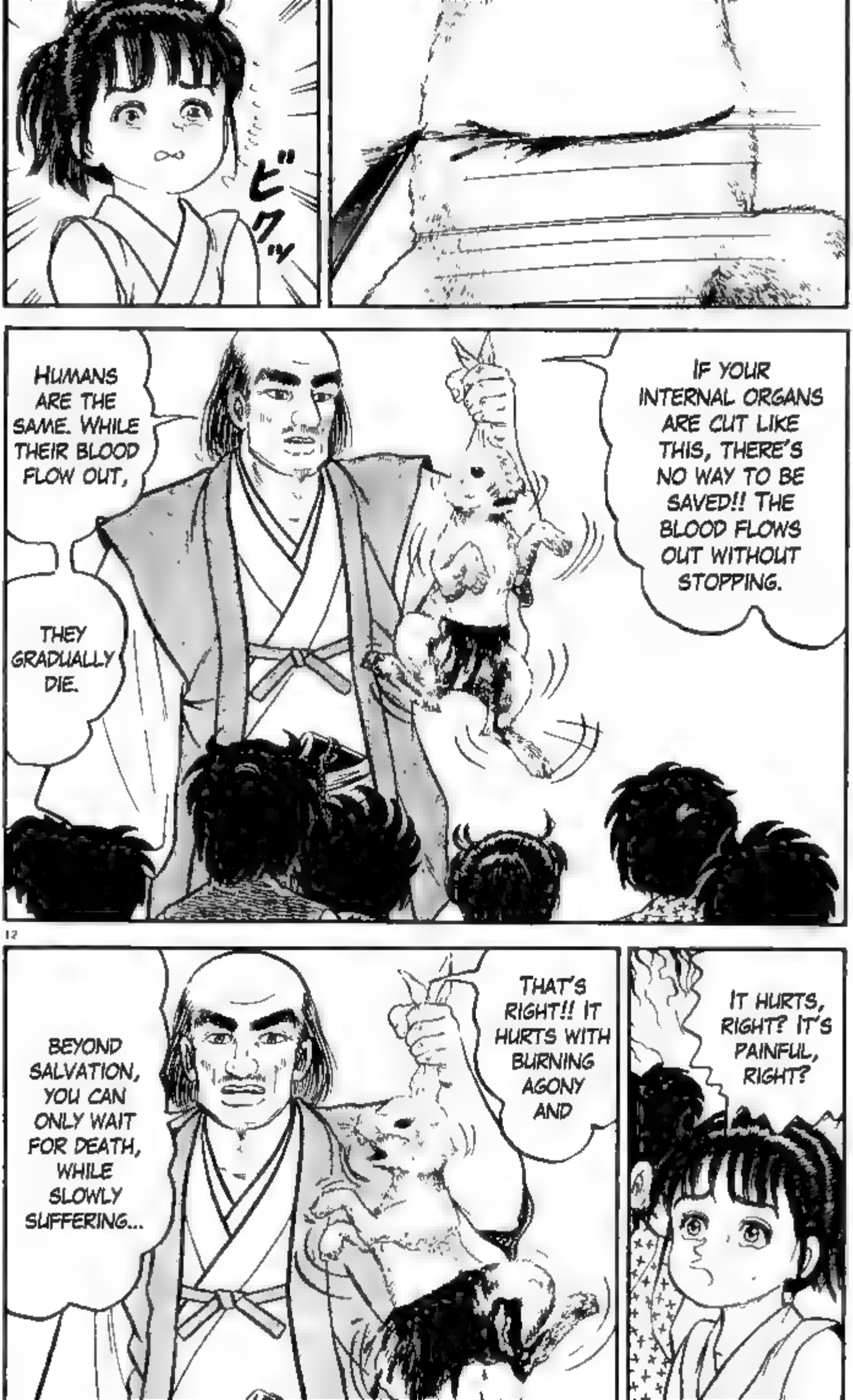

W-WHAT HAPPENED ...
UH-UHH-HM...



ONE REACHED THE LUNG FROM THE TIP OF THE RIGHT SHOULDER, AND THE OTHER FROM THE LEFT FLANK REACHED HIS INTERNAL ORGANS...

THAT ENEMY BASTARD... HE GOT AWAY WITHOUT GIVING HIM THE FINAL BLOW...
THERE-FORE, GRAMPA...
HAS GRADUALLY DIED WHILE
SUFFERING FOR SO LONG... LOSING SUCH
A GREAT QUANTITY OF BLOOD...

CURSE YOUUU...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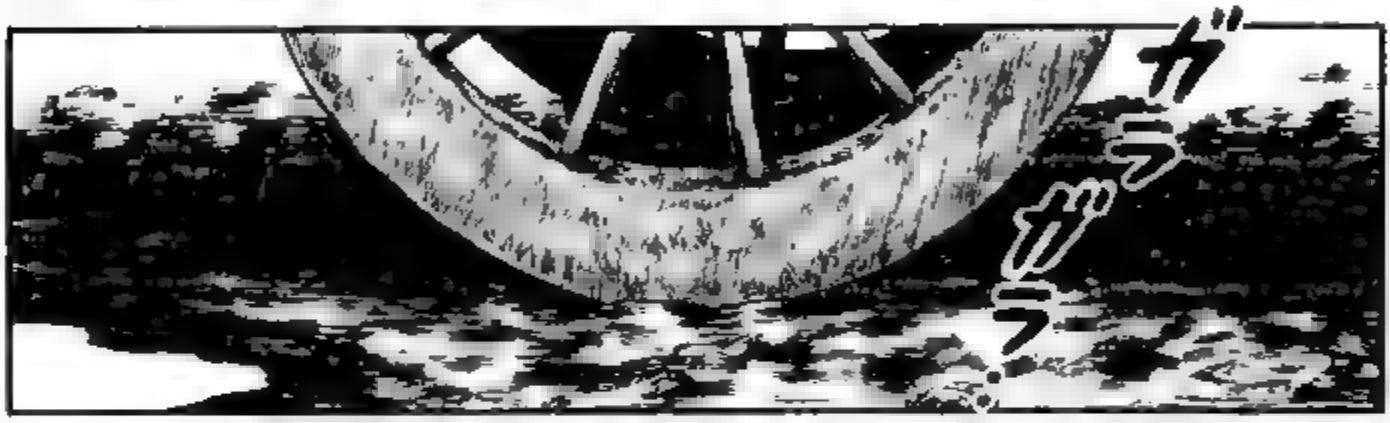
HUMANS ARE THE SAME. WHILE THEIR BLOOD FLOW OUT,
THEY GRADUALLY DIE.
IF YOUR INTERNAL ORGANS ARE CUT LIKE THIS, THERE'S NO WAY TO BE SAVED!! THE BLOOD FLOWS OUT WITHOUT STOPPING.
12
BEYOND SALVATION, YOU CAN ONLY WAIT FOR DEATH, WHILE SLOWLY SUFFERING...
THAT'S RIGHT!! IT HURTS WITH BURNING AGONY AND
IT HURTS, RIGHT? IT'S PAINFUL, RIGHT?

THIS WAY, THEY WON'T FEEL ANY MORE PAIN!!
HUMANS ARE THE SAME.
THEREFORE, GIVE THE FINAL BLOW IMMEDIATELY!! TO THE NECK OR THE HEART, LIKE THIS.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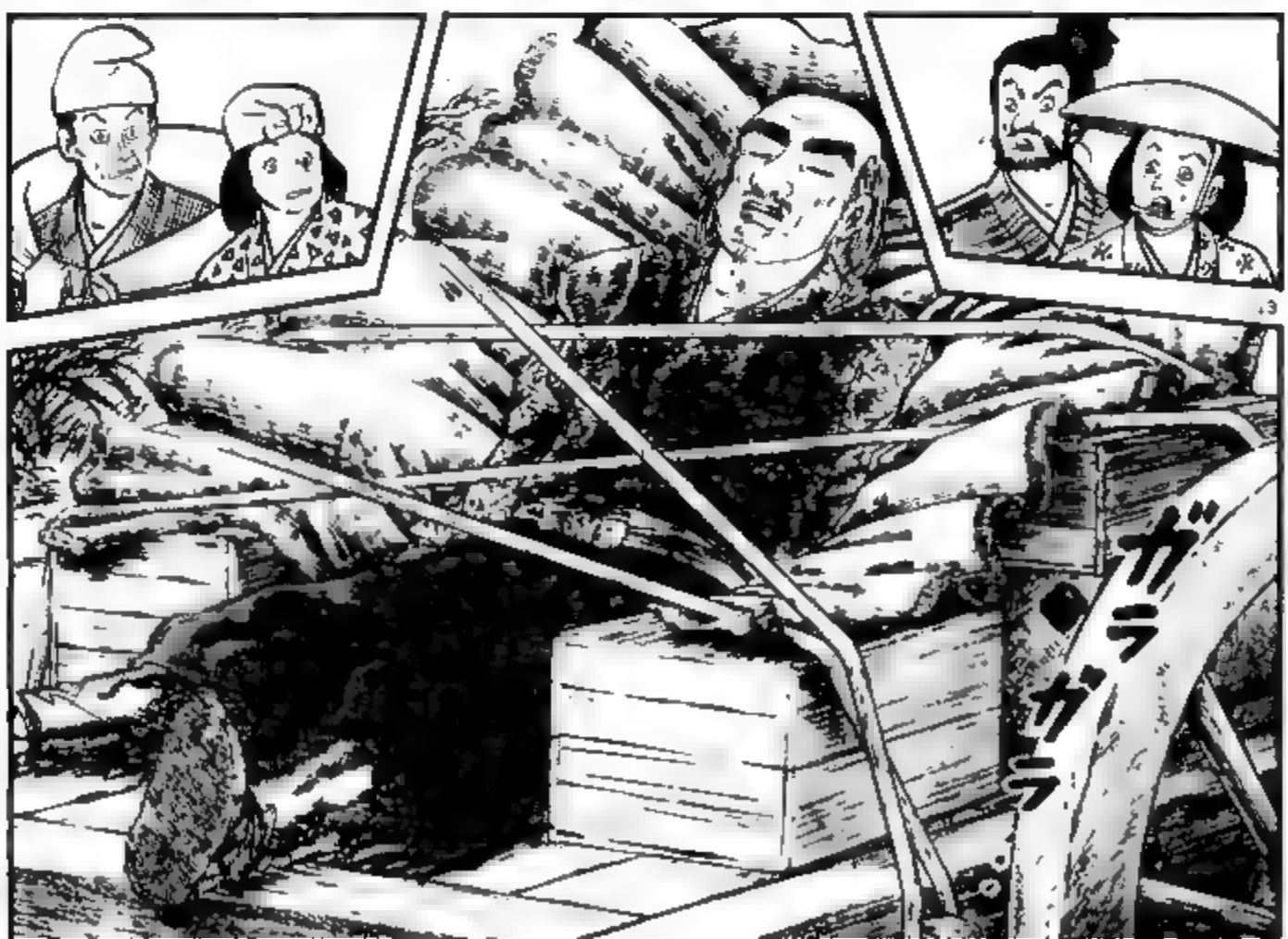
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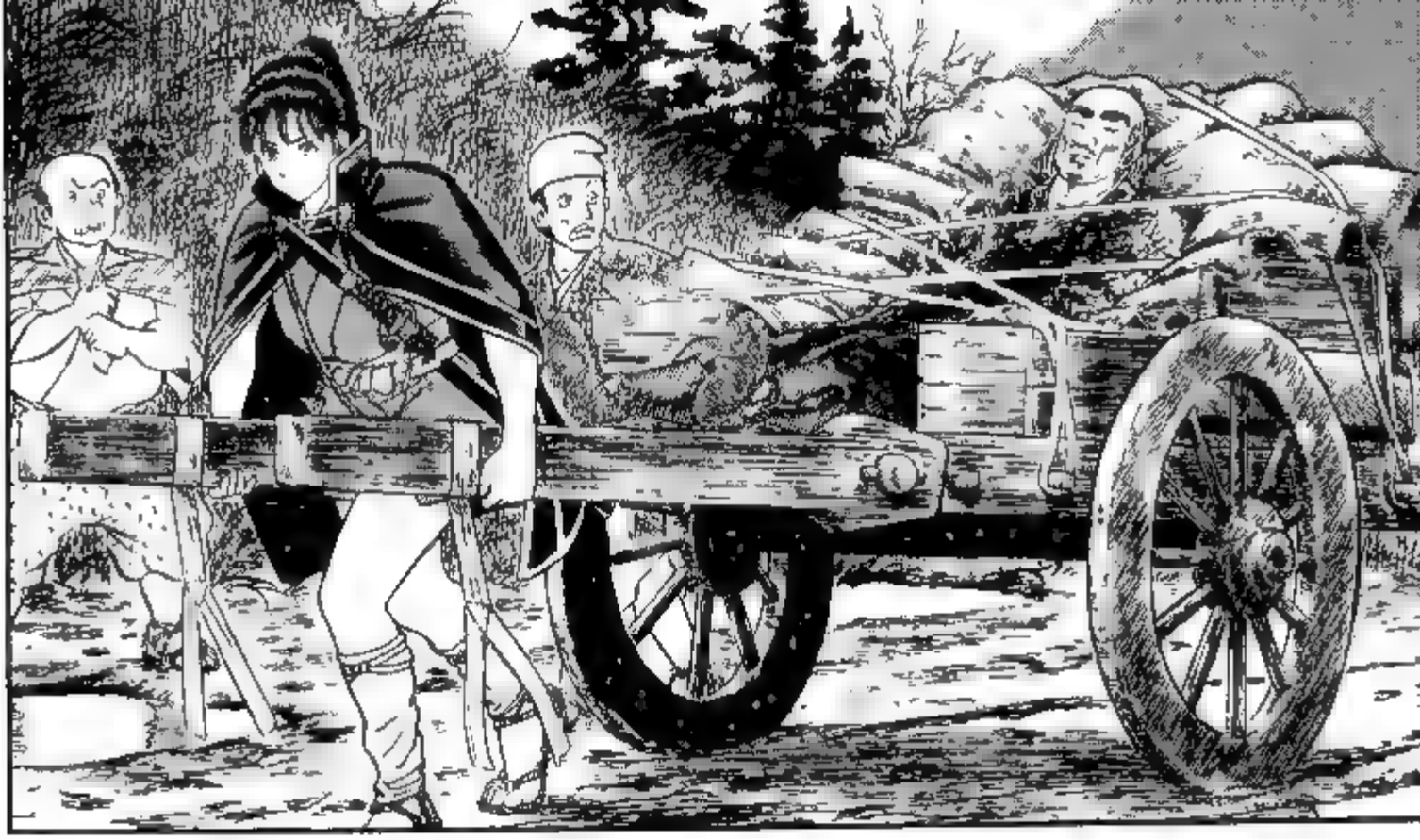

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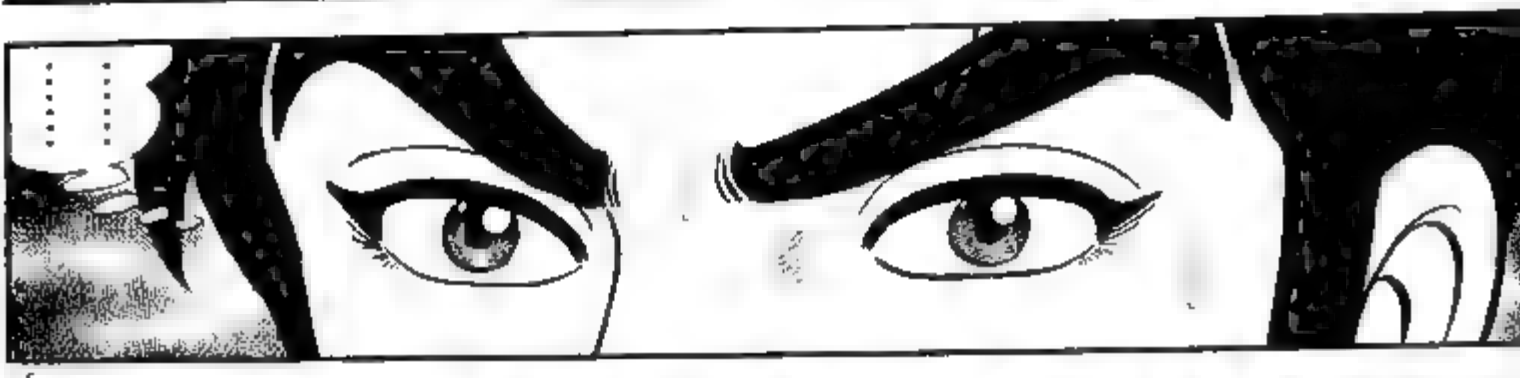
I HAVE TO SHARPEN MY FIVE SENSES!! THE ENEMY IS WATCHING FROM SOMEWHERE AND AIMING AT ME.

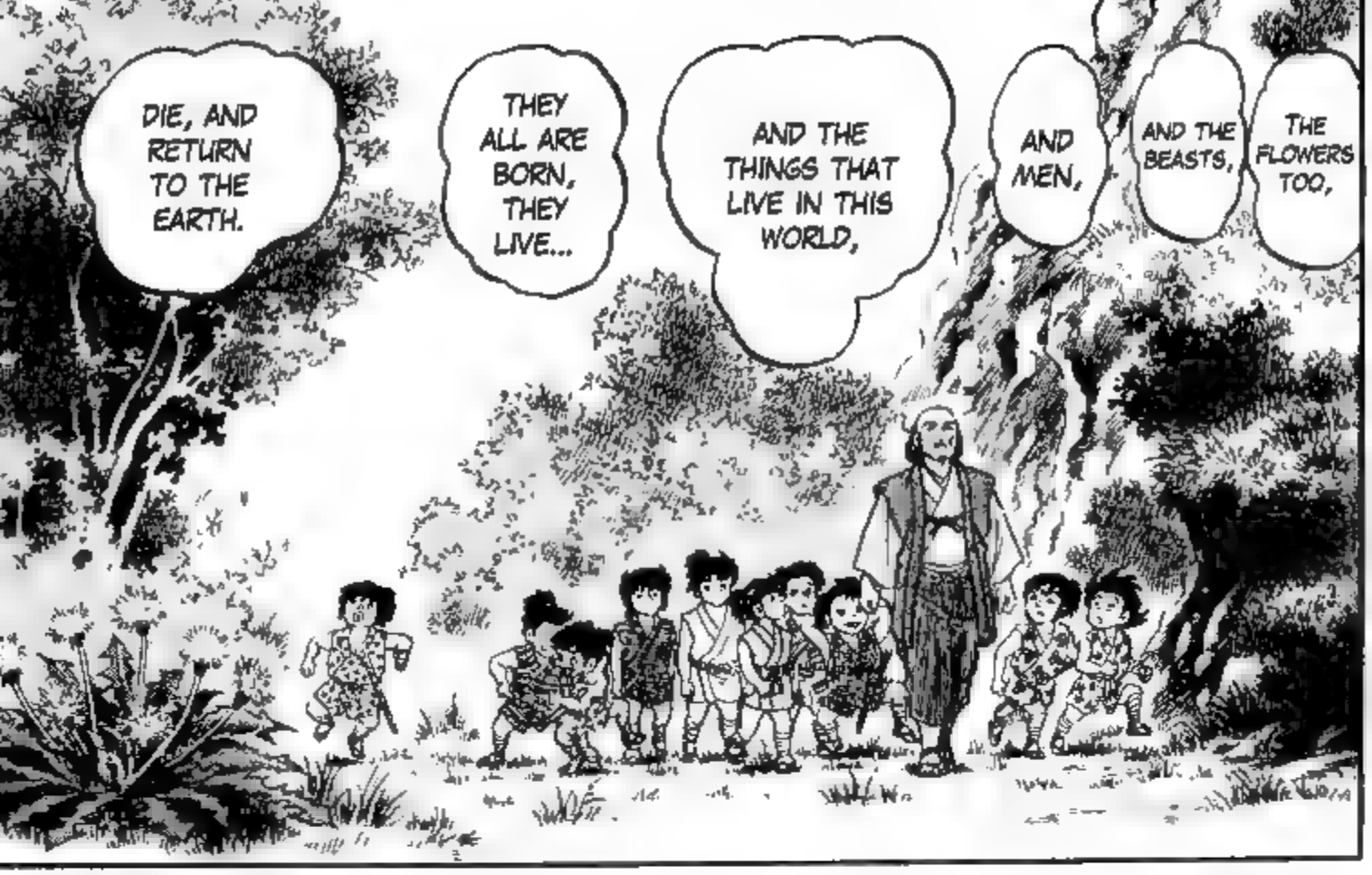
YOUR ROLE IS TO INFORM THAT GIRL THAT OBATA GESSAI WAS KILLED BY IEYASU'S DECREE...
OBSERVE HER ACTIONS AFTER THAT AND REPORT THEM!!


.....

TO QUIT THIS KIND OF
I WANT ...
ROLE ALREADY !!

IF WE DO THAT, WHAT HAPPENS!?
RABBITS, BOARS, BEARS, EVEN HUMANS.
WHEN THEY BECOME CORPSES WE BURY THEM WITH EARTH LIKE THIS.

EVEN THE BLOSSOMED FLOWERS,
RIGHT !!
AND THE LEAVES SPROUTED FROM BUDS,
AND RETURN TO THE EARTH.
BEFORE LONG THEY WITHER, FALL TO THE GROUND, BECOME SOIL
RETURN TO THE EARTH!?
IF YOU DO THAT, THOSE BODIES SOON BECOME SOIL AND RETURN TO THE EARTH.


DIE, AND RETURN TO THE EARTH.
THEY ALL ARE BORN, THEY LIVE...
AND THE THINGS THAT LIVE IN THIS WORLD,
AND MEN,
AND THE BEASTS,
THE FLOWERS TOO,

GROW NEW PLANTS AGAIN,
THEN, THEY
THEY BECOME NOURISHMENT FOR IT AND ENRICH IT.
WHEN RETURNED TO THE EARTH,
THEY MAKE BLOSSOM BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS
AND GROW THE FOOD YOU EAT.

ALL THE THINGS IN THIS WORLD,
SINCE FAR BACK IN TIME,
HAVE REPEATED THIS MANY TIMES...
CONTINUING UP TO NOW...
AND THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DO IT EVEN IN THE FUTURE.

THAT'S WHY, WHEN A BODY DIES,
BEING IT LIKE WHAT I SAID,
IT'S NOT SOMETHING TO BE SAD AT ALL.

I'M BEING TARGETED.
I HAVE TO SHARPEN MY SENSES!!

EVEN AT THAT TIME...
FOR SURE, EVEN NOW THERE'S SOMEONE WHO'S TAILING AND WATCHING ME...
EVEN TODAY'S ASSAULT...THEY WERE PERSONS WHO HAD TAILED US.
THAT MAN...?
OR MAYBE SOMEONE ELSE...

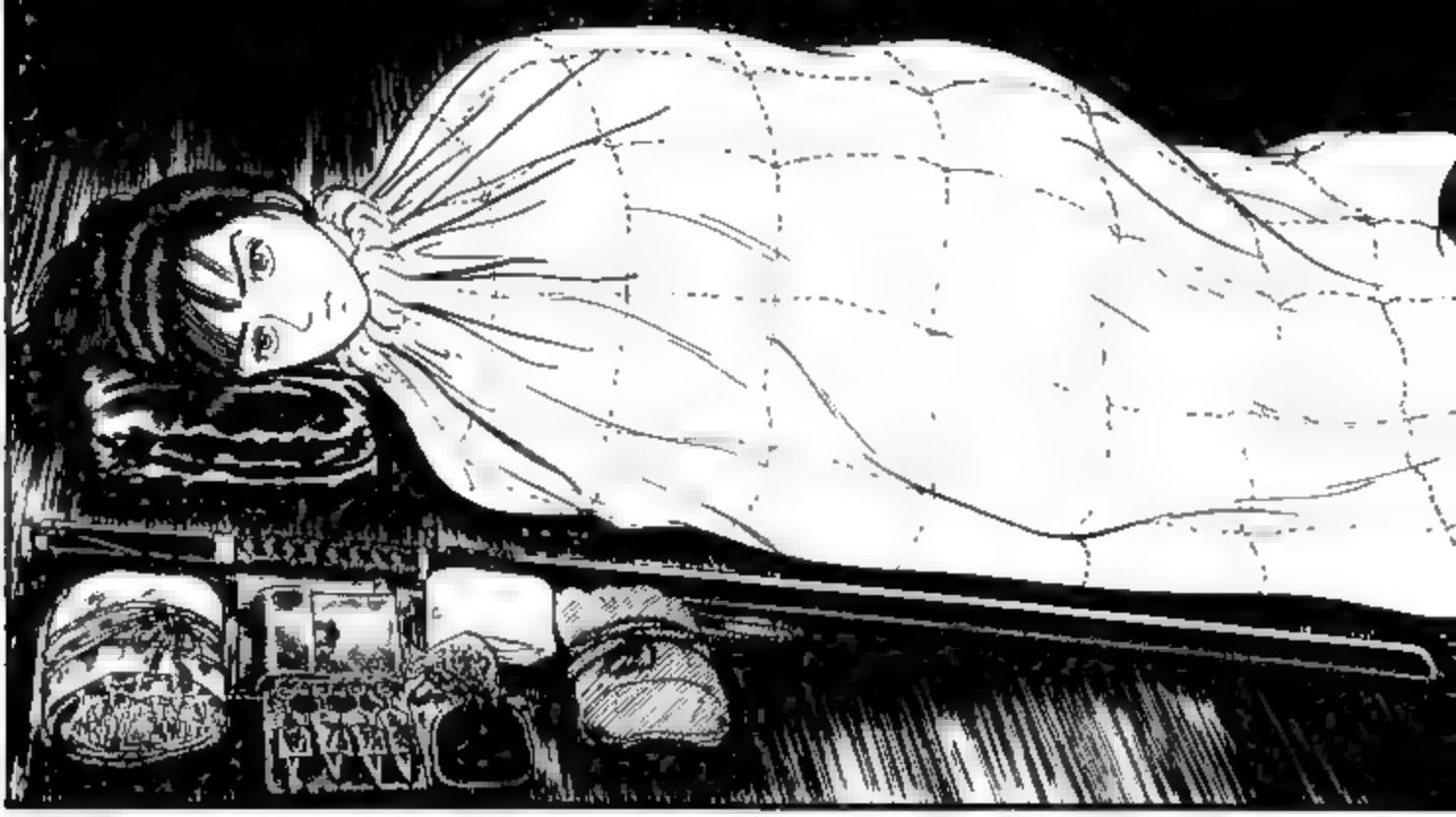
FIRST, I NEED TO SHAKE THEM!!

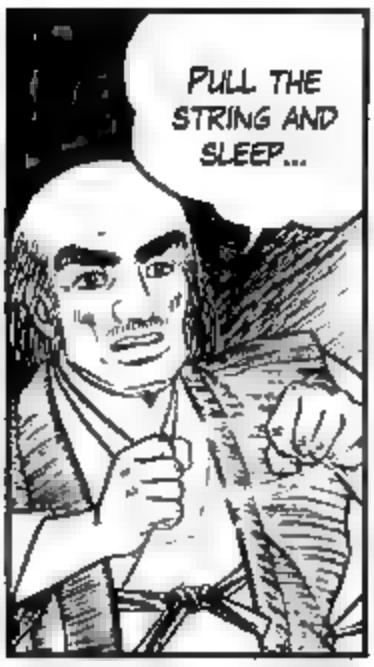
UHM...
GRAMPA...THE BODY RETURNS TO EARTH, BUT...WHERE IS THE REALM OF THE DEAD WHERE THE SOULS GO!?
25
THEY ALWAYS WATCH US FROM THE SAME POSITIONS, RIGHT!?
FROM WHEREVER YOU LOOK AT THEM,
LOOK AT THOSE STARS.
YES!! WHEREVER YOU GO, THEY ALWAYS FOLLOW YOU!!
IS THAT SO? .....ARE THE STARS THERE EVEN DURING THE DAY...?
YOU ONLY CAN'T SEE THEM, BUT THEY'RE ALWAYS IN THE SKY.
AND THEN, DURING THE DAY YOU CAN'T SEE THEM BUT IT'S NOT THAT THEY'VE VANISHED.

EEEEEH !!
THE REALM OF THE DEAD WILL ALWAYS BE HIGH IN THE SKY...THEY SAY IT CAN STARE AT YOU FROM UP ABOVE.
WHEREVER YOU'LL GO IN THE VAST OUTSIDE WORLD,
EVEN THE SOULS THAT WENT TO THE REALM OF THE DEAD...LIKE THE STARS DURING THE DAY, CAN'T BE SEEN FROM HERE, BUT...
SO, IT'S NOT LONELY!!
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S NOT LONELY!

YOU WILL FEEL THEM NEAR YOU FOREVER...
FOR INSTANCE, EVEN IF SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO YOU WERE TO DIE BEFORE YOU...

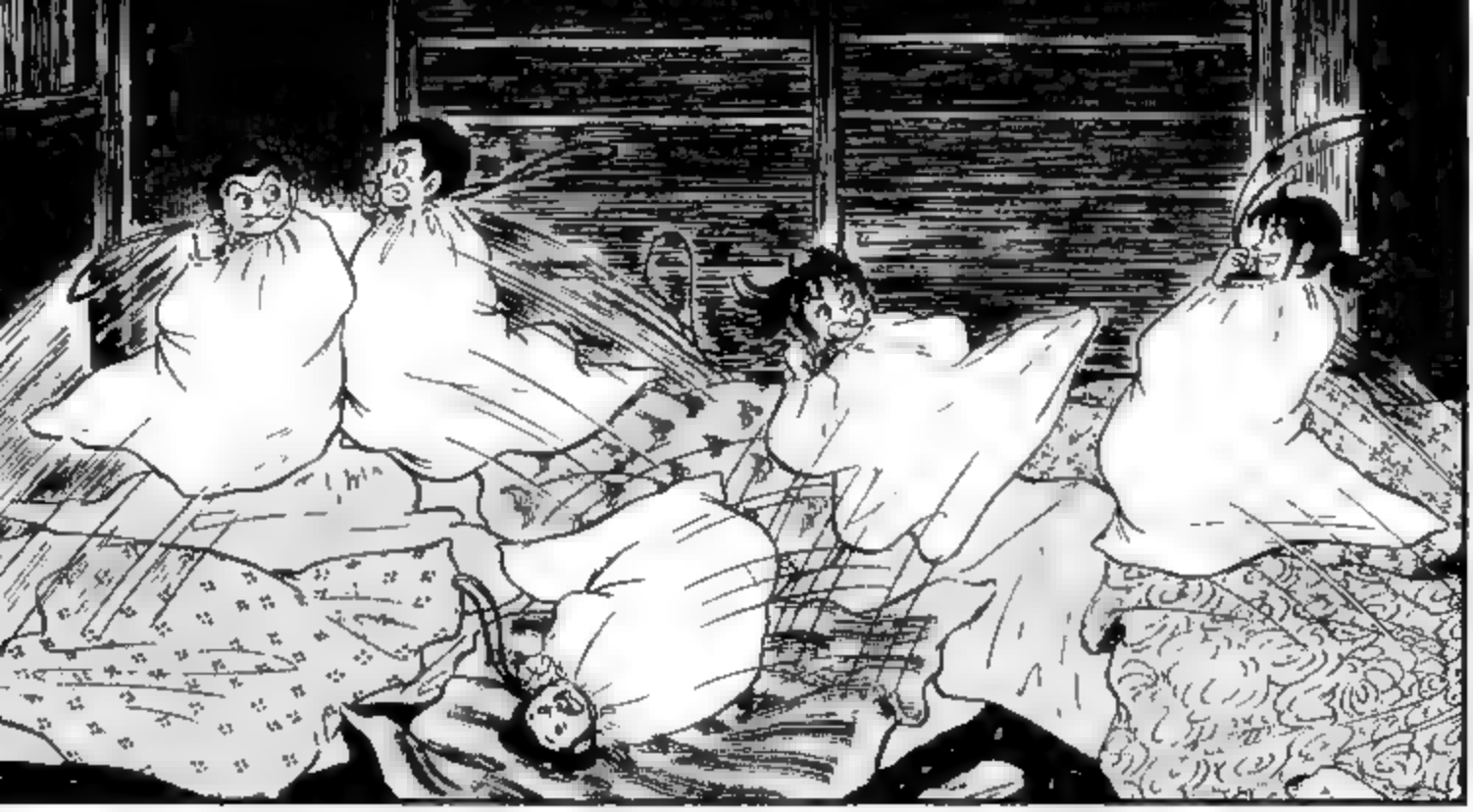
THEY STAY FOREVER NEAR YOU... AND WATCH YOU!!




PULL THE STRING AND SLEEP...

IF YOU SPREAD IT, EVEN IF ATTACKED YOU CAN JUMP OUT OF IT AT ONCE!!

THERE WILL BE CASES WHEN YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT FOR NIGHT TO DAWN IN SECRET WHILE OUTSIDE IS COLD.
WHEN CARRYING OUT MISSIONS,
HOW IS IT!? IF YOU SLEEP INSIDE THAT SACK, EVEN WITHOUT A FUTON YOU CAN SLEEP WARMLY AND YOU CAN EVEN FOLD IT TO MAKE IT SMALL.



HEY!! IT'S NOT SOMETHING TO TOY WITH!!

Azumi
CHAPTER 63
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

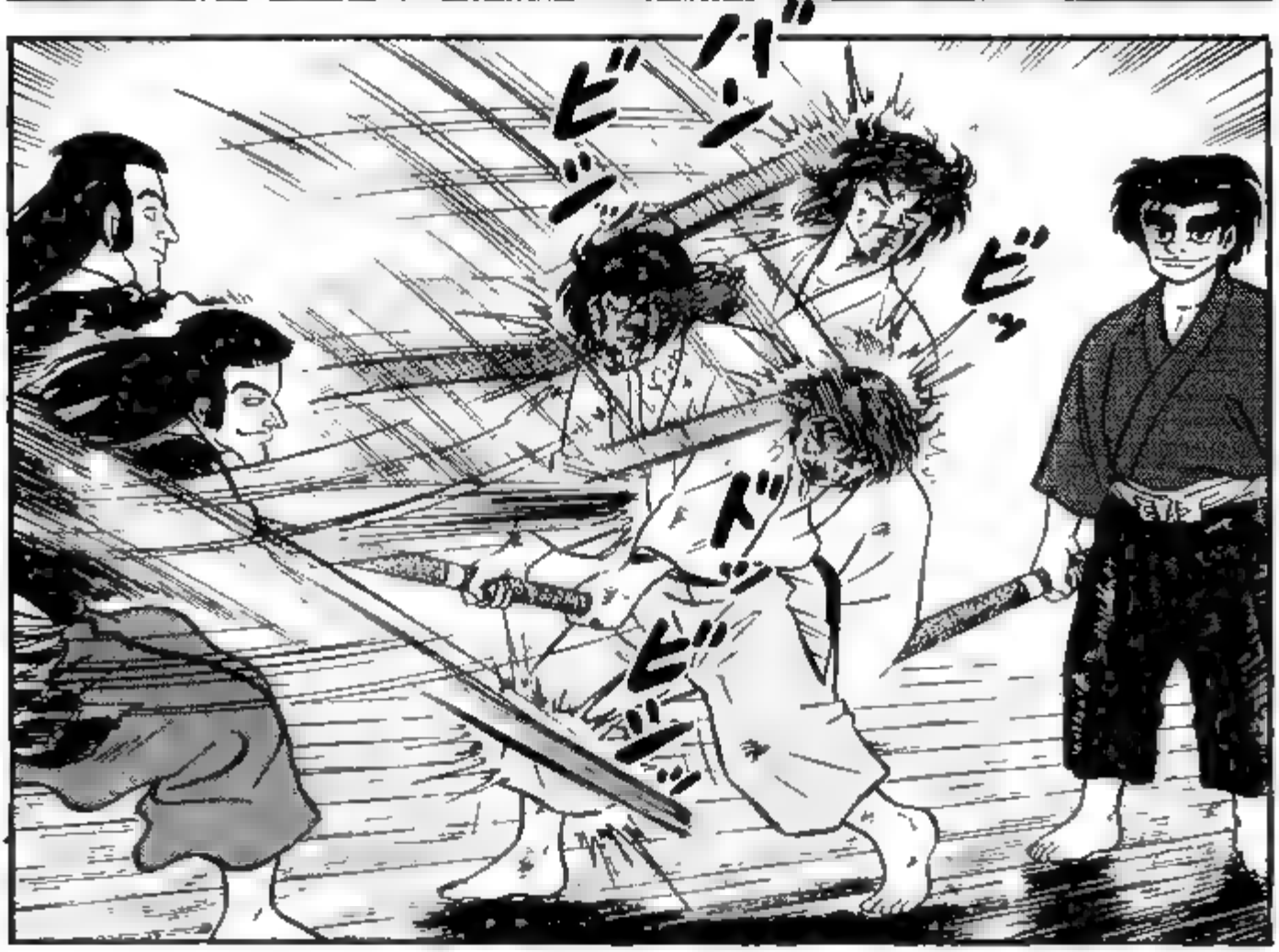
30

Chapter 5: Ōnoha Ittōryū

IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO REST,
STAND UP!!
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

YOU WERE USELESS FOR THAT TOO! THE VALUE OF YOUR EXISTENCE IS INSIGNIFICANT, RIGHT!? ...UHM!?
YOU'RE OF NO USE WITH A SWORD, SO, THEY GAVE YOU A ROLE OF SEEKING AND HUNTING...
STAND UP, KAZUMA!!
PANT
PANT

COME ON, STRIKE!!
THEREFORE, YOU SHOULD BE USEFUL WITH THE SWORD! WE'LL RETRAIN YOU AGAIN ONE MORE TIME!! WAH HA HA.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COUGH!!

WHAT A TSK!! PATHETIC BASTARD!!
WHISTLE
WHISTLE
WHISTLE

WHISTLE
TO HELL WITH THE SWORD!
AS IF BEING GOOD AT KILLING PEOPLE IS SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF!!

IN THIS PERIOD, IEYASU MOVED AROUND STRENUOUSLY TO PUT THE FINISHING TOUCHES ON SOLIDIFYING THE TOKUGAWA ORDER.
IN OCTOBER, HE WENT TO EDO CASTLE FROM SUNPU.
THEN, IN DECEMBER, HE CAME BACK TO SUNPU.
DURING THE JOURNEYS, TO CONCEAL WHERE IEYASU WAS TRAVELING, THERE WERE MULTIPLE PALANQUINS.
SKILLED FENCERS WERE DEPLOYED.
AND PERFECT BODY-GUARDS WERE EM-PLOYED.

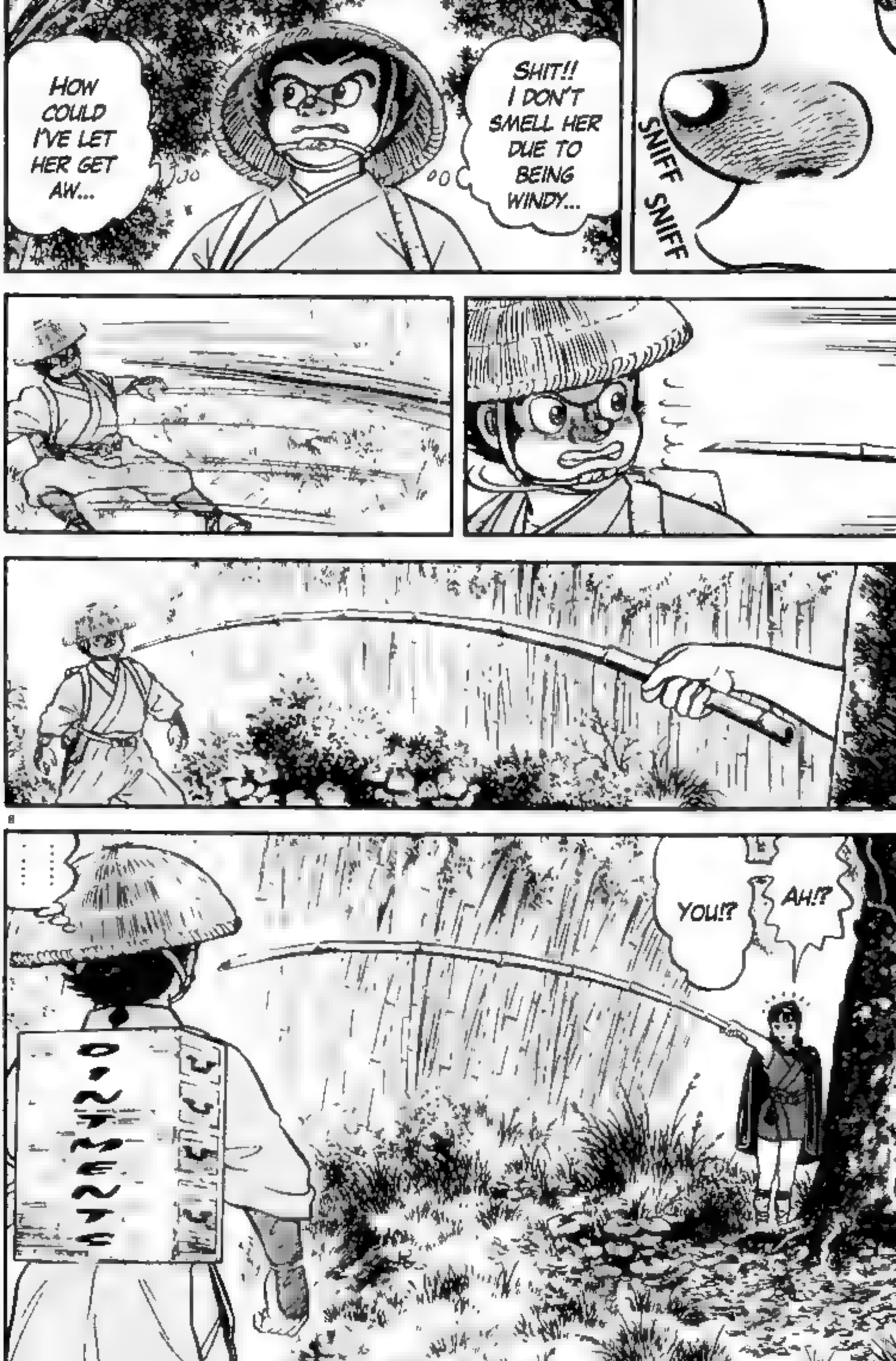
TOBIZARU

OINTMENTS

I FOUND HER!!
AZUMI!!!
WAS SHE COMING TO SUNPU TOO...?

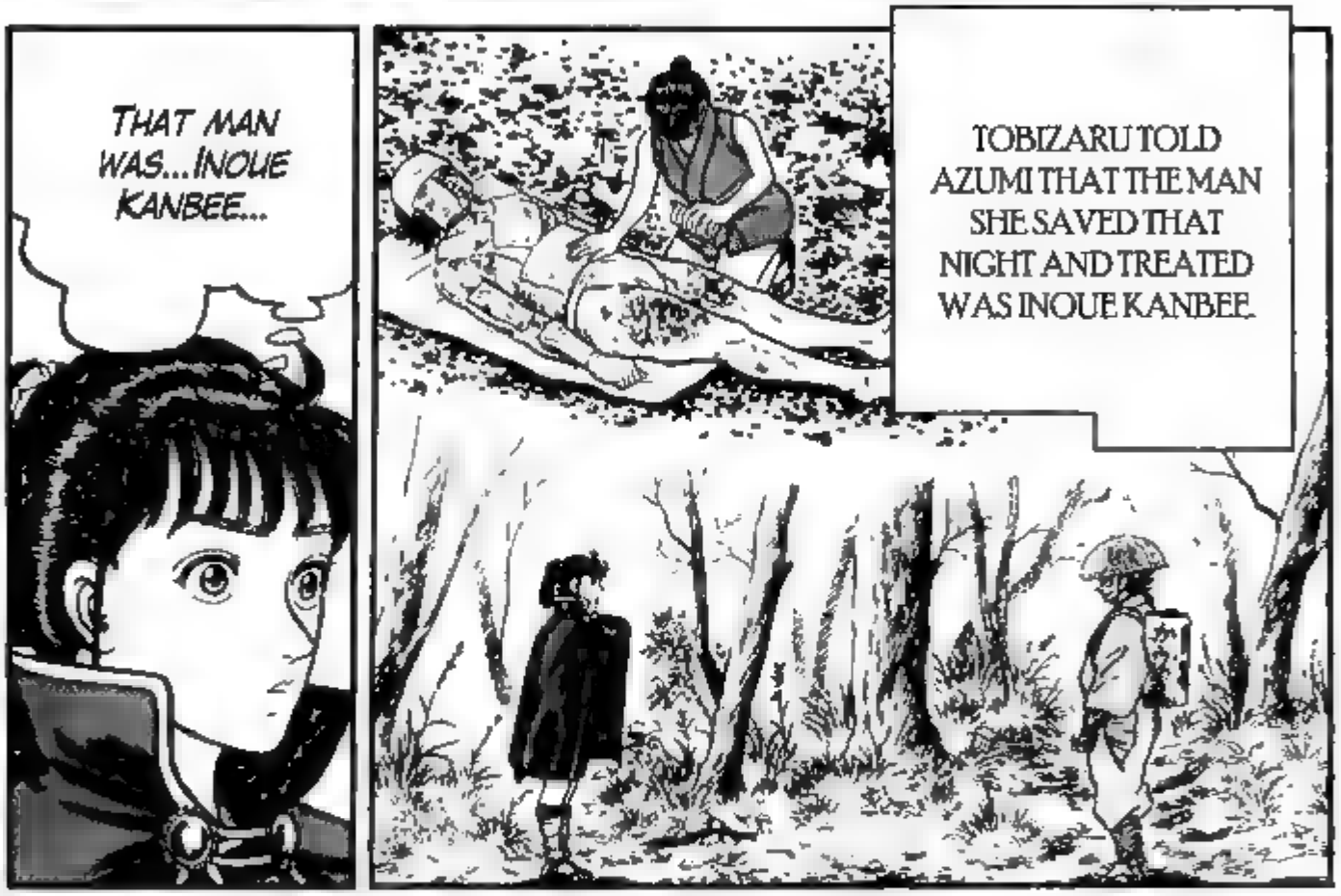
SHE'S WEARING SOME WEIRD THING...

!?
EH....!?


HOW COULD I'VE LET HER GET AW...
SHIT!! I DON'T SMELL HER DUE TO BEING WINDY...
SNIFF SNIFF
YOU!?
AH!?

IT'S THE FIRST TIME MY TAILING HAS BEEN SEEN THROUGH...
I DIDN'T EXPECT LESS FROM YOU...
YOU WERE ALIVE!?
.....
.....
SO YOU WERE ALIVE...
I SEE...
9
SHINOBI, NOT KIYOMASA-SAMA'S!
I'M INOUE KANBEE-SAMA'S
DO YOU WANT TO AVENGE KATO KIYOMASA-DONO!?
WAS THAT SO?
INOUE KAN-BEE...

UHM !?
.....
YOU'RE INOUE KANBEE-SAMA SAVIOR!
YOU'RE... MY...
SINCE WE'RE HERE... I'LL TELL YOU.


THAT MAN WAS... INOUE KANBEE...
TOBIZARU TOLD AZUMI THAT THE MAN SHE SAVED THAT NIGHT AND TREATED WAS INOUE KANBEE.

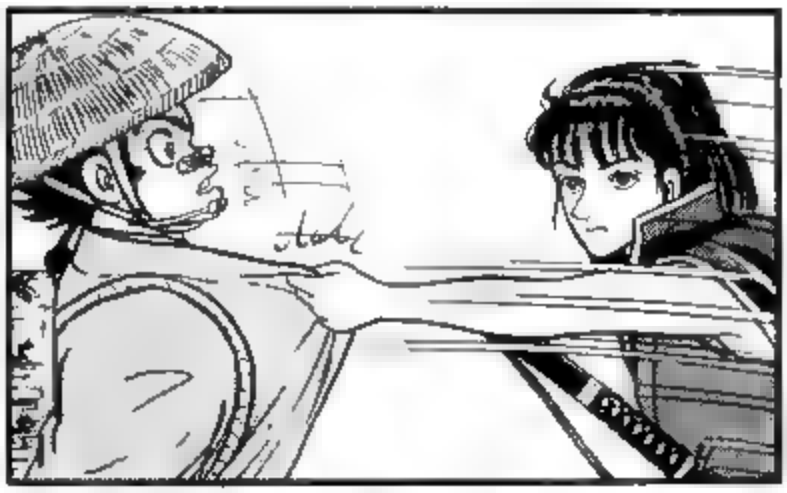
IN THY HEART, A BODHI-SATTVA DWELLS.
LIVE FOLLOW-ING THY HEART.
I THINK THAT...IT'S FINE IF HUMANS...LIVE LIKE THAT...

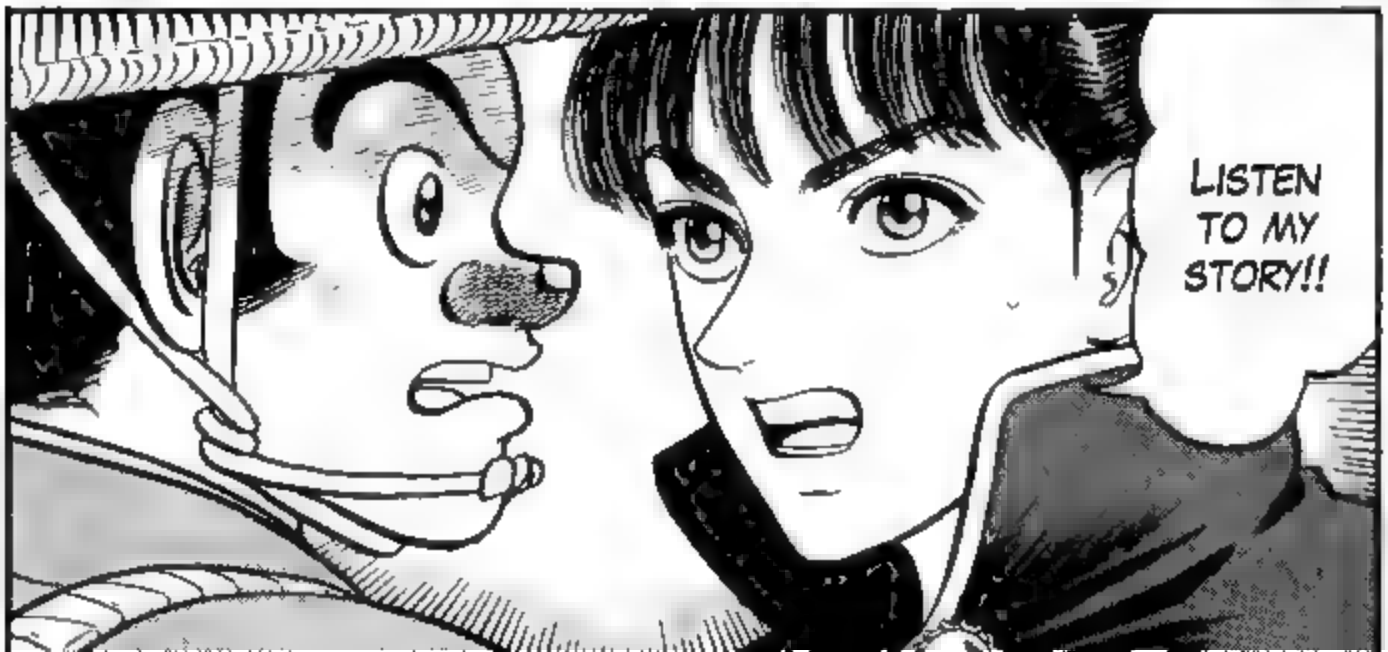
.....
WHAT IS HE DOING... NOW!?
SO, INOUE KANBEE GOT BETTER...

THAT'S NOT IT!!
YOU'RE AN AGENT OF IEYASU.
I CAN'T TELL YOU THAT.

THAT'S RIGHT... IF THAT MAN IS KANBEE-DONO, HE CAN ONLY HAVE ONE MOTIVE FOR BEING HERE IN SUNPU!

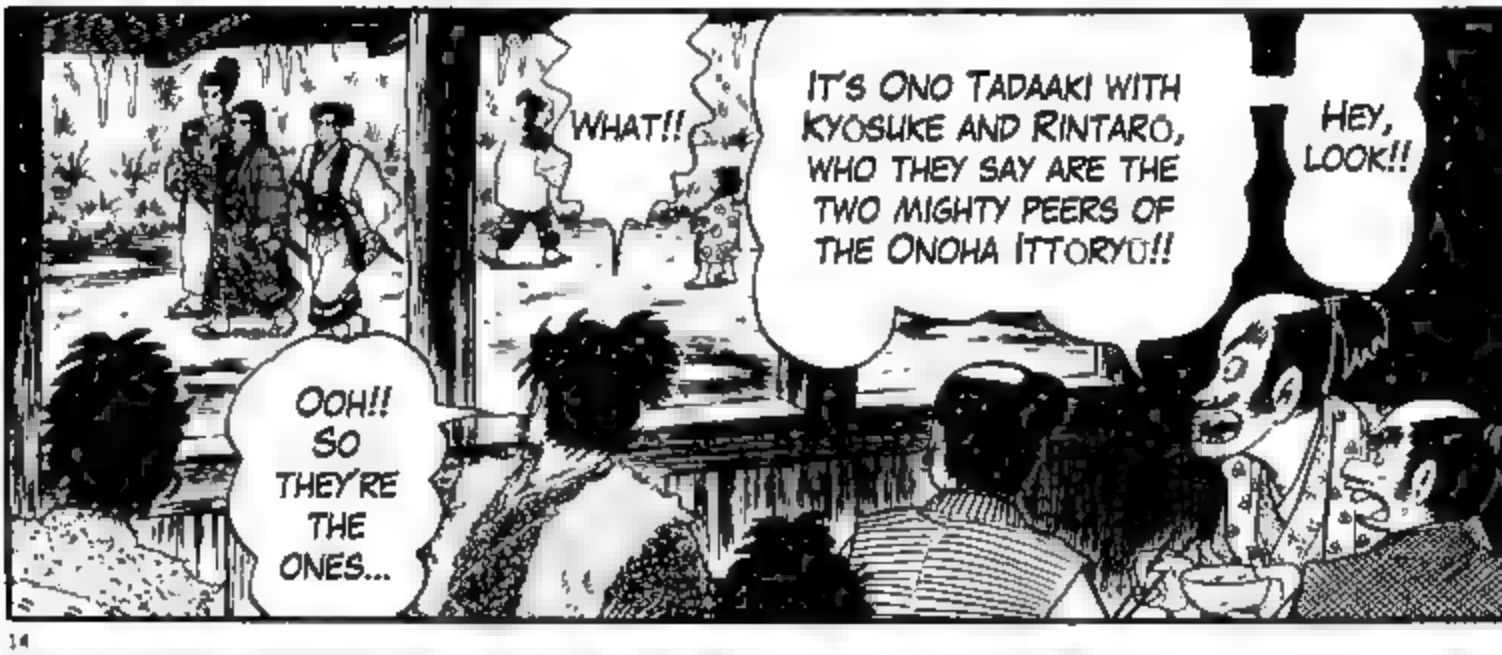
WHAT...




LISTEN TO MY STORY!!

MUNENORI OF THE YAGYŪ SHINKAGERYŪ WAS WELCOMED AS ONE OF THE SHŌGUN'S FENCING INSTRUCTORS...
THE OTHER ONE WAS...
THE FOUNDER OF ONOHA ITTŌRYŪ, *MIKOGAMI TENZEN*, FORMALLY *ONO TADAAKI*
ONO TADAAKI WAS A STRAIGHT MILITARY MAN.
HE DESPISED MUNENORI WHO WAS GROWING HIS INFLUENCE OVER POLITICAL POWER.
HE WAS ENFLAMED WITH VIO-LENT RAGE TOWARDS HIM.

LIKEWISE, MATSUI RINTARŌ.
TADAAKI LEADING DISCIPLE, MITSUGU KYŌSUKE.


OOH!! SO THEY'RE THE ONES...
WHAT!!
IT'S ONO TADAAKI WITH KYOSUKE AND RINTARŌ, WHO THEY SAY ARE THE TWO MIGHTY PEERS OF THE ONOHA ITTORYŪ!!
HEY, LOOK!!

ARE WALKING TOGETHER RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!!
AMAZING... NOW, THE THREE STRONGEST MEN WITH THE SWORD IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY...

I'D WANT TO WATCH IT...
IF YAGYŪ MUNENORI AND ONO TADAAKI FOUGHT...
ONO TADAAKI IS THE STRONGEST !!
DON'T SAY STUPID THINGS!
SINCE THEY SAY THAT HE CAN DO THE "MUTODORI", SHOULDN'T BE MUNENORI THE BETTER ONE!?
THEN, AT PRESENT, THE NUMBER ONE FENCER IN THE COUNTRY IS ONO TADAAKI!?
THEY SAY THAT THE GENERAL EVALUATION WAS THAT ONO TADAAKI WAS BETTER_
THIS BECAME A PERPETUAL TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AMONG FENCERS, BUT_
"WHO IS STRONGER BETWEEN YAGYŪ MUNENORI AND ONO TADAAKI?"...

IF WE SPEAK OF STRENGTH, MIYAMOTO MUSASHI SHOULD BE THE BEST!!
UHMMM ...
OOOH...HE'S MUNENORI'S NEPHEW, RIGHT?
NO...I WENT AROUND ALL THE PROVINCES AND THE OPINION THAT HYOGONOSUKE FROM THE OWARI YAGYŪ IS THE BEST ONE IN THE COUNTRY WAS PROMINENT.

HEY, LOOK!! WE FOUND HER!!
OH!!
SHE WAS...IN SUNPU...!!
IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE THAT
BASTARD OF KAZUMA LOST HER TRACKS...
JUST STAYING THERE, WITHOUT EVEN HIDING...

!!
!!
WEEELL...SHE DOESN'T KNOW THAT WE'RE ENEMIES...
WHAT DO WE DO!?

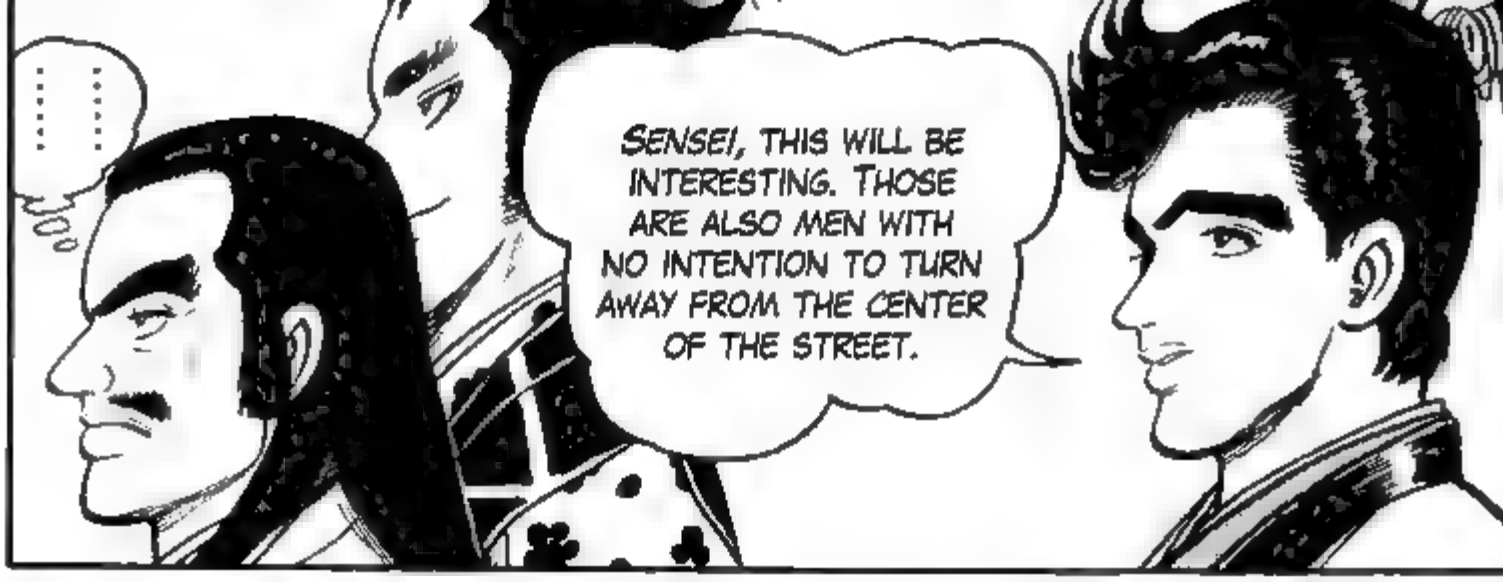
YES...WE MEET THEM AGAIN...
MORE IMPORTANTLY... THOSE COMING FROM OVER THERE...

ONOHA ITTOURYŪ AND YAGYŪ SHINKAGERYŪ... WHICH SWORD IS SUPERIOR!?

THEY'RE JŌJIRŌ AND SHINSUKE FROM YAGYŪ...

THE LEADING DISCIPLES OF BOTH SCHOOLS... HELD A DEEP MUTUAL LOATHING...
MUNENORI DIDN'T ACCEPT AND ALSO STRONGLY PROHIBITED HIS DISCIPLES FROM ENGAGING IN MATCHES WITH OTHER SCHOOLS.
ONO TADAAKI ASKED MUNENORI TO FIGHT, EXPRESSING THAT THE ITTORYÛ WAS SUPERIOR, BUT...

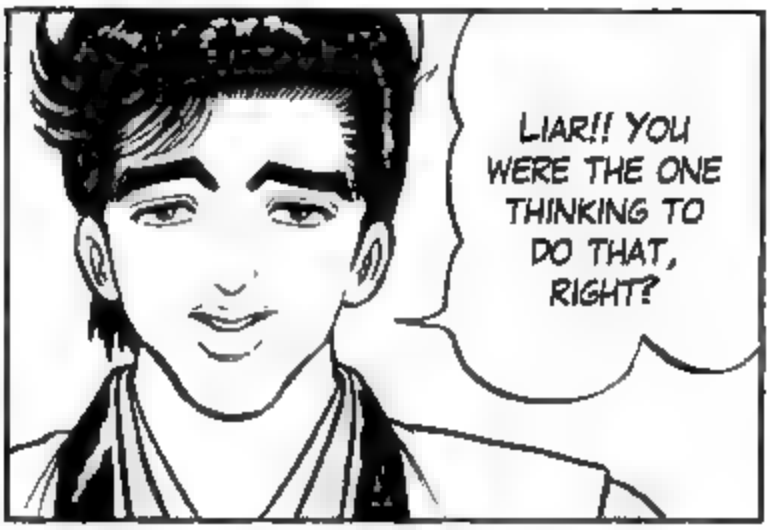
.....


SENSEI, THIS WILL BE INTERESTING. THOSE ARE ALSO MEN WITH NO INTENTION TO TURN AWAY FROM THE CENTER OF THE STREET.

THE ONE WHO'S THINKING TO DO SOMETHING IS JOJIRO OVER THERE.
WHAT'RE YOU THINKING TO DO!?
RINTARO, DON'T RELEASE SO MUCH "KI".

SLIPPING THROUGH QUICKLY AND CUTTING MY SLEEVES WITH THE SHORT SWORD AND LAUGH OR STUFF LIKE THAT....
I FEEL THAT HE'S THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE

NO, THAT GUY IS.


LIAR!! YOU WERE THE ONE THINKING TO DO THAT, RIGHT?

.....

.....

HAAH...HOWEVER, IF HE STARTS SOMETHING, I WON'T LET IT SLIDE.
RINTARO... DON'T!

WILL HE STRIKE?
BAS-TARD!!

Azumi
CHAPTER 64
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

GULP
GASP
PHEEEEEE
24

Chapter 6: Meeting Again With Kanbee

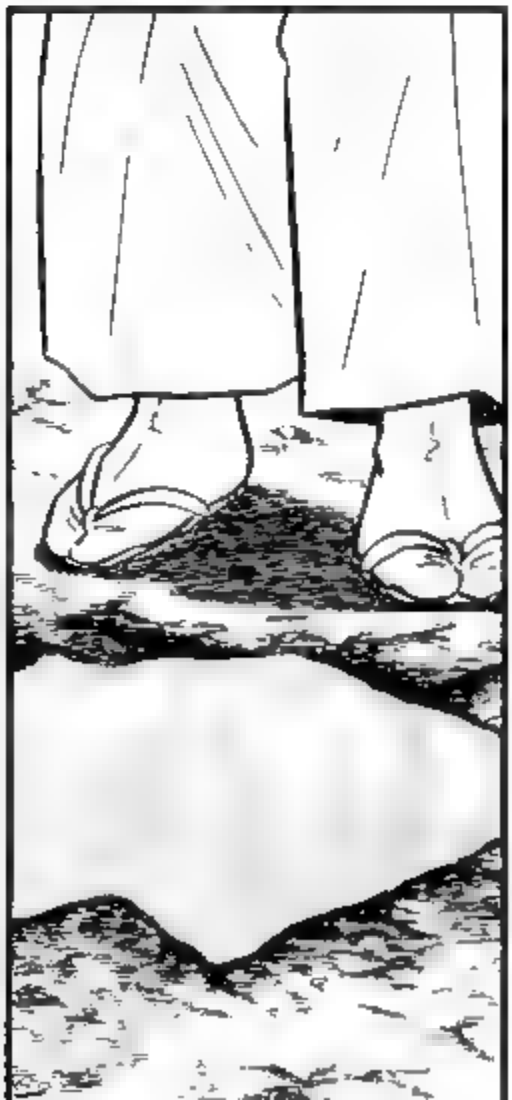
2

WHY DID YOU BLOW THE REED PIPE!?

I THOUGHT THAT FROM THAT POSITION YOU WOULD HAVE STEPPED ON THE WATER IN THE INSTANT YOU DREW
AND WOULD'VE SLIPPED... I DID IT UNCON-SCIOUSLY ...

.....
.....

!!



WELL, YOU BOTH WERE EMITTING A STRONG "KI" THAT WAS SAYING "DRAW!!"...
WHY DID YOU THINK I WAS GOING TO DRAW MY KATANA!?

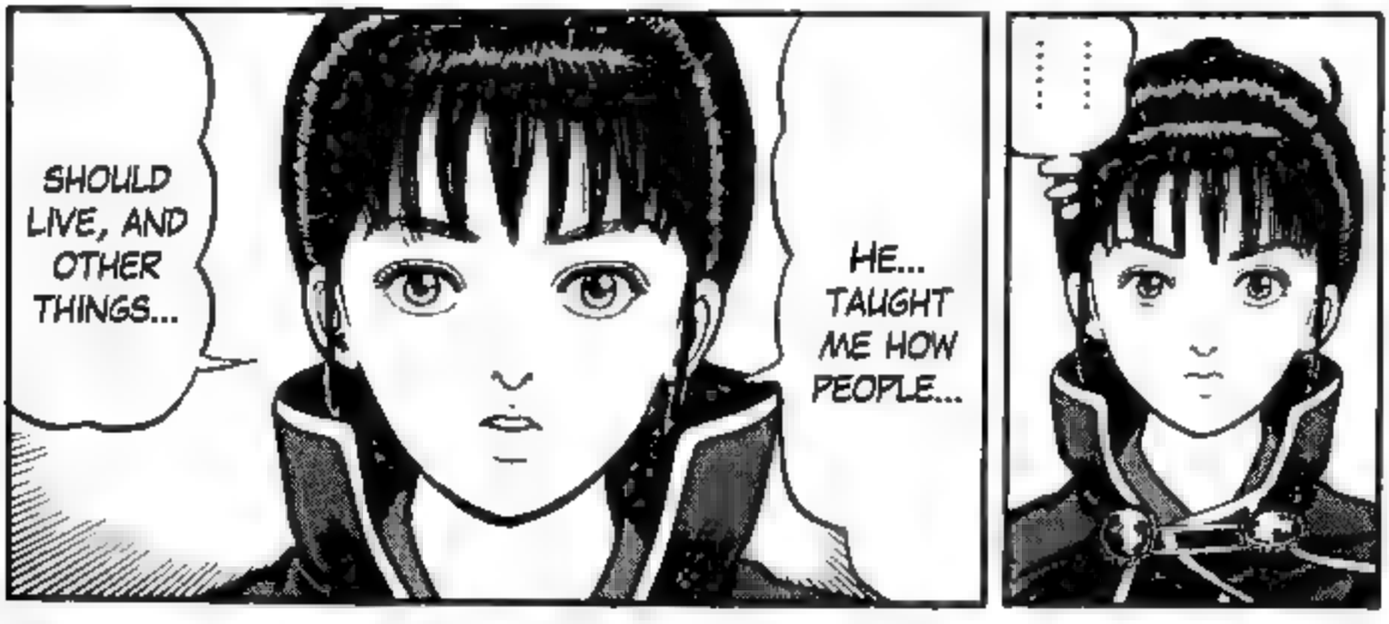
AND YOU'RE WEARING THAT STUFF!?
THOUGH YOU'RE A WOMAN, WHY DO YOU DON A KATANA
THIS GIRL FELT THE "KI"!?.....MOREOVER, SHE CALMLY NOTICED EVEN THAT HE WAS GOING TO STEP ON THE WATER..

WAH HA HA HA, DO YOU LIKE THAT THING!?
THAT'S A GOOD ONE!!
THEN,
WHAT WERE YOU DOING ALONE IN SUCH A PLACE!?
BECAUSE I LIKE IT.
WHY, YOU ASK...

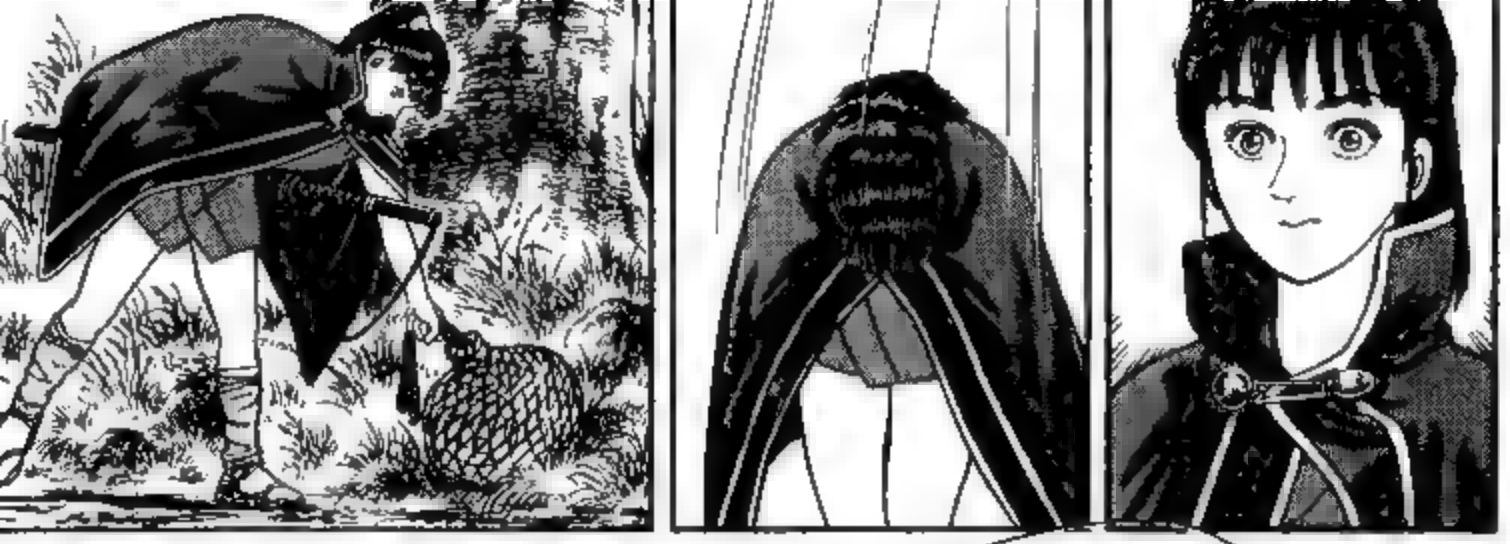
TO ASK TO ME!?
HAVING A FAVOR TO ASK, I WAS WAITING FOR ONO TADAAKI-SAMA.

I'D LIKE YOU TO LET ME MEET HIM!!
YES!! I HEARD THAT THERE'S A MAN CALLED TAKAGI KANSUKE SOJOURNING AT YOUR PLACE.

WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP DO YOU HAVE WITH HIM!?
OOOOH!? I'VE HEARD THAT KANSUKE-DONO IS SOMEONE WITHOUT A SINGLE RELATIVE.


SHOULD LIVE, AND OTHER THINGS...
HE... TAUGHT ME HOW PEOPLE...
.....

COME WITH US.
ALL RIGHT.
HAH HA HA HA HA HA... THAT'S FUNNY!!



IEYASU'S ORDER TO KILL GRAMPA AND ME WAS A SECRET ORDER GIVEN TO THOSE OLD SHINOBI AND TO A PART OF THE YAGYŪ SHINKAGERYŪ MEN...
AS I SUSPECTED ...
LIKE THE OTHER SAMURAI AT SUNPU CASTLE, THE MEN OF ONOHA ITTORYŪ ARE ALSO UNAWARE OF ME...

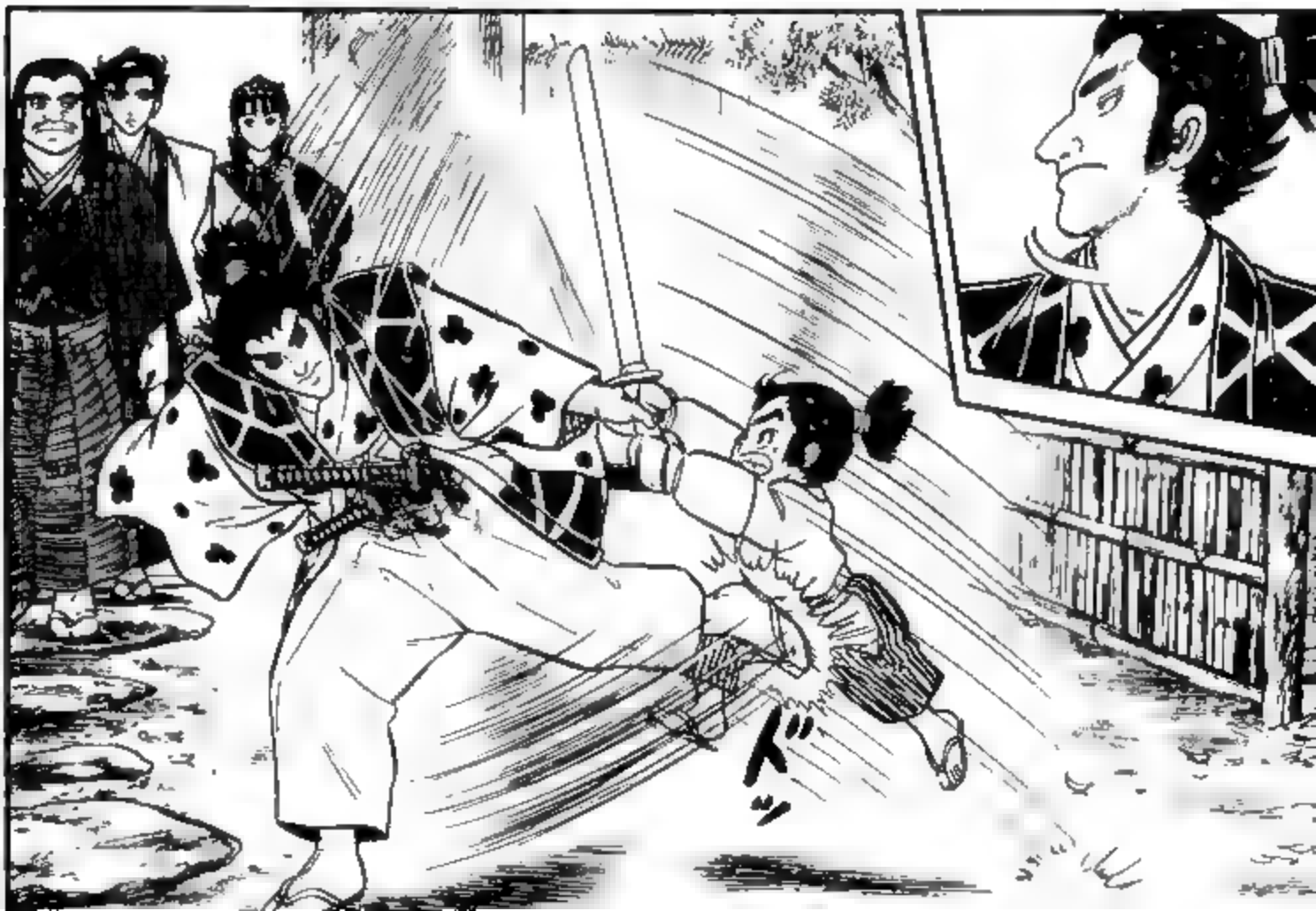
WEL-
COME
BACK!!
AH!!
SENSEI!!
WELCOME
BACK!!

YES
HE
IS!!
KOHYŌTA!!
IS KANSUKE-
DONO IN!?

A
GUEST FOR
KANSUKE-
SAN!?
THERE'S
A GUEST FOR
KANSUKE-DONO.
GO CALL HIM
TO COME HERE
IMMEDIATELY.

HURRY UP, GO CALL HIM!!
.....

AH!? RINTARO-SAN, WHAT'S THAT!?
YES!!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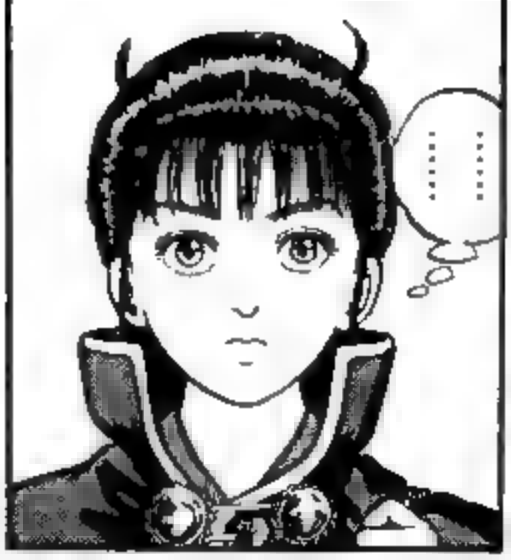
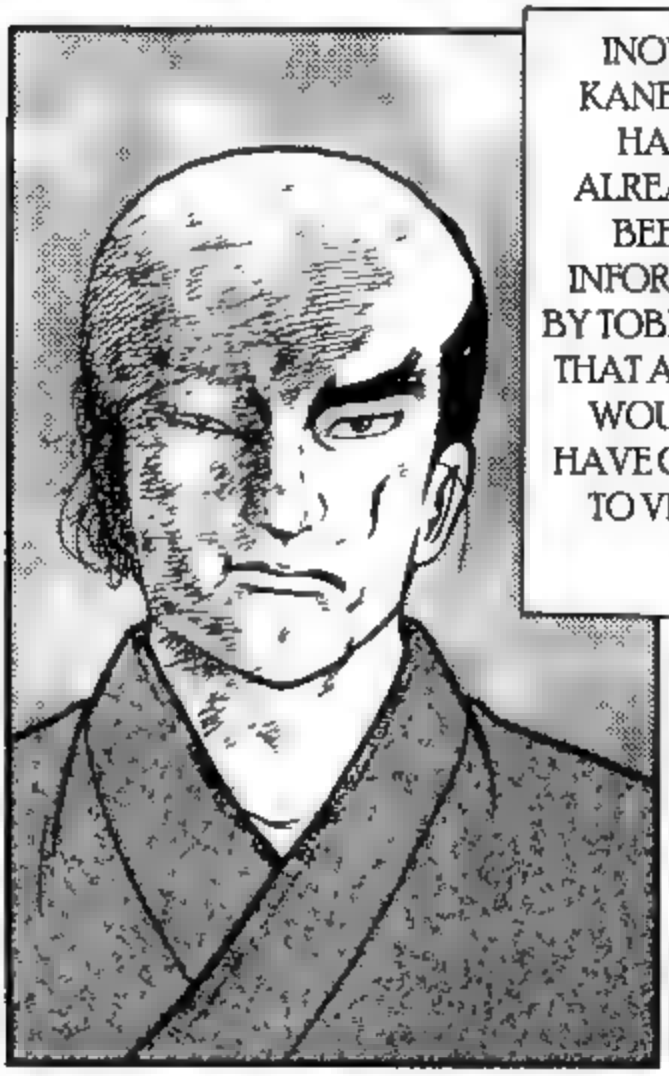
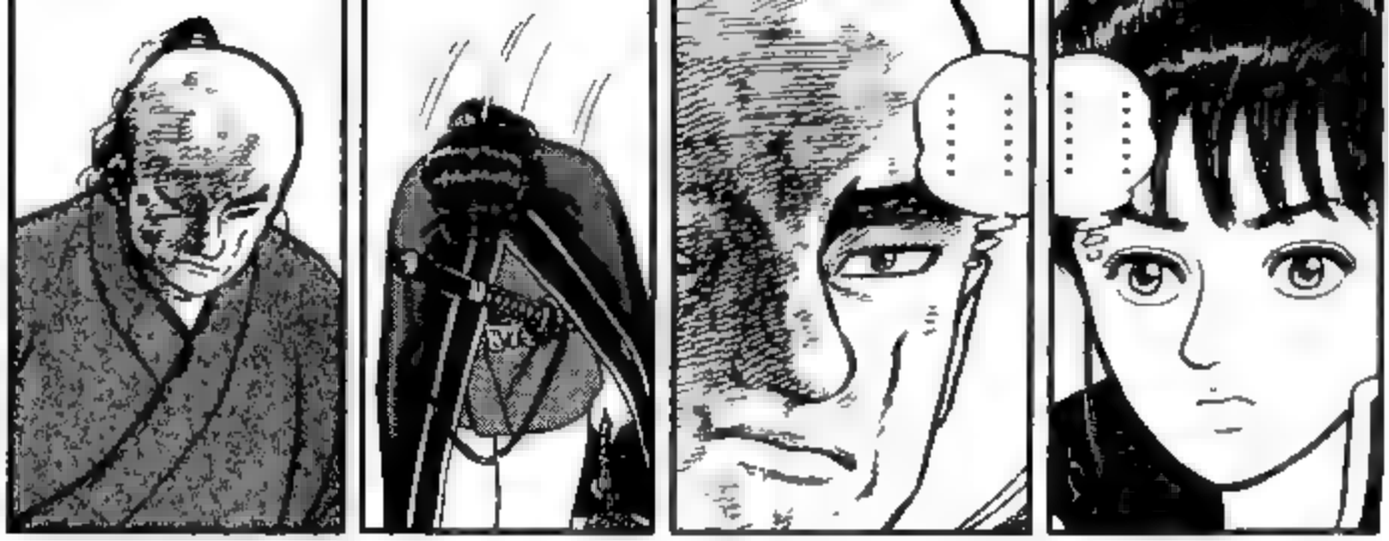
NAIVE!!
KANSUKE-SAAAN!!
KANSUKE-SAAAN!!
.....





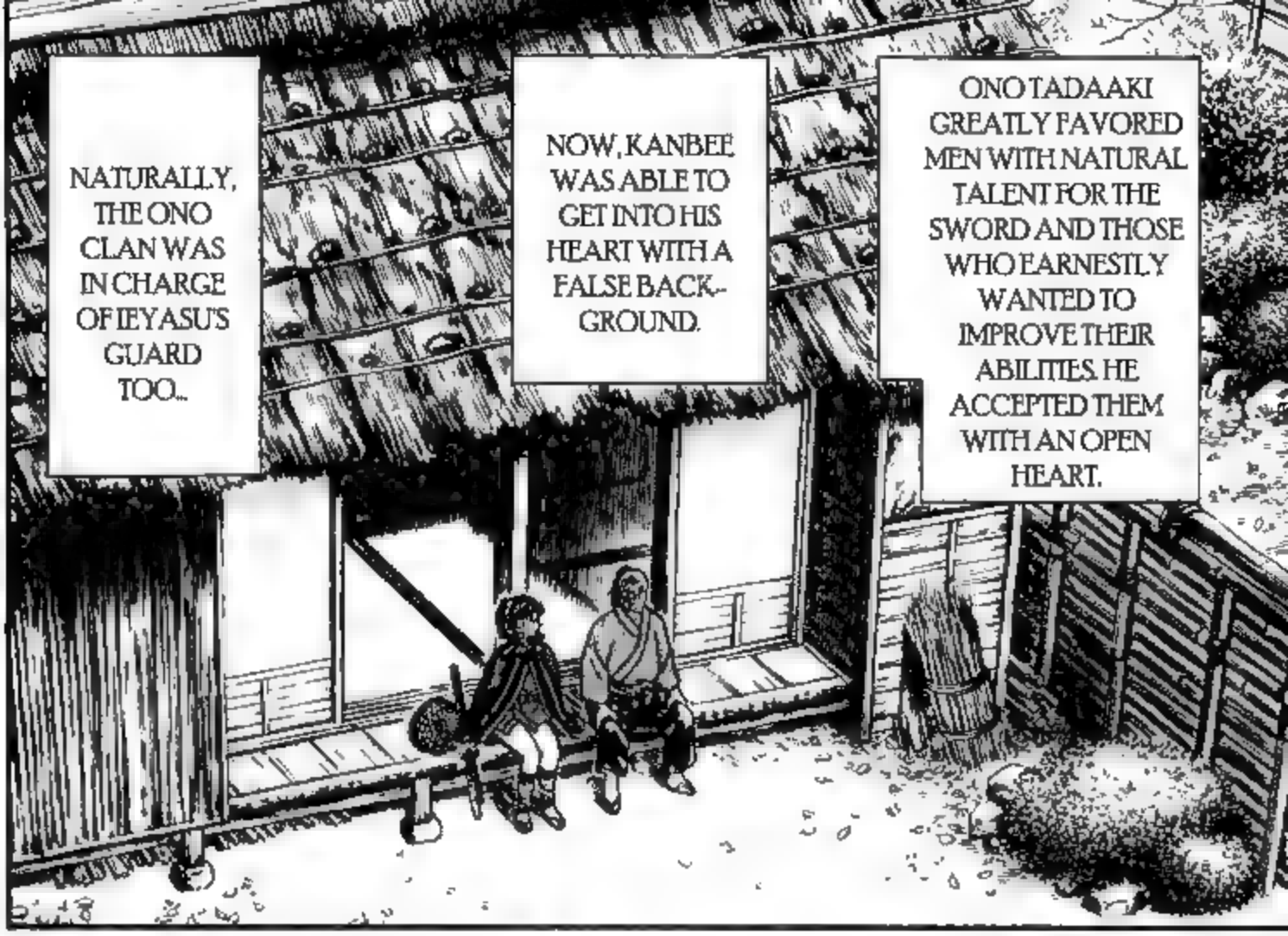
INOUE KANBEE HAD ALREADY BEEN INFORMED BY TOBIZARU THAT AZUMI WOULD HAVE COME TO VISIT.

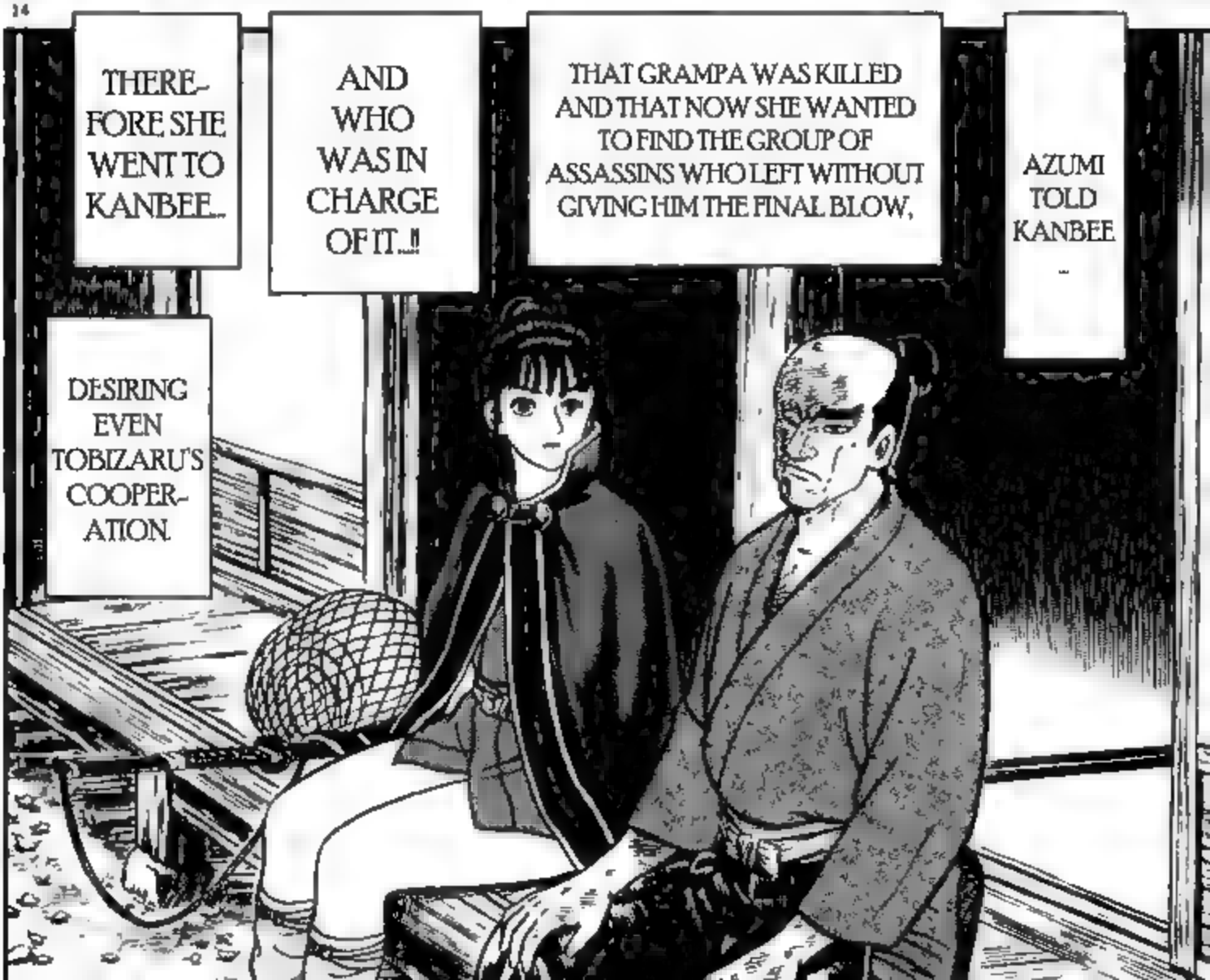


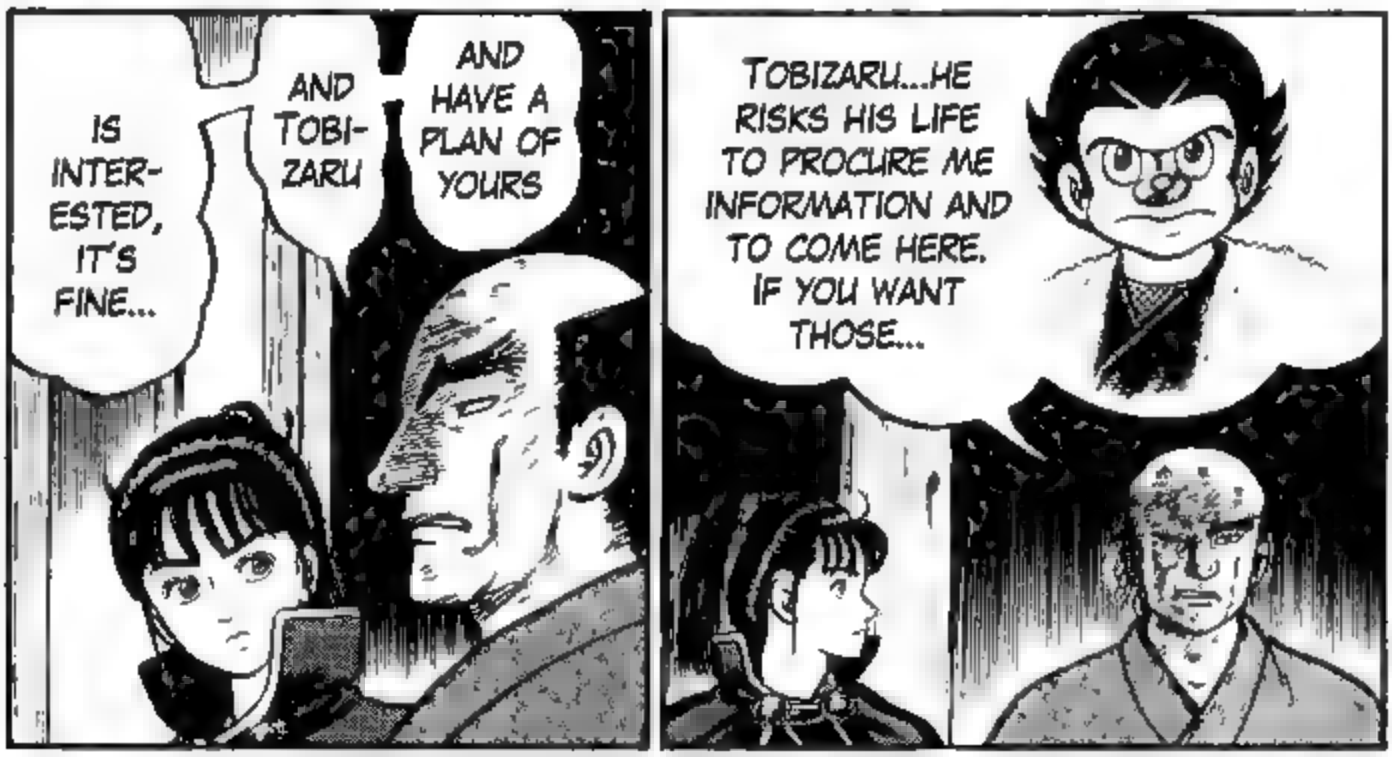
IS IT ALL RIGHT!?
BUT FOR NOW I'D LIKE TO TALK THE TWO OF US ALONE.
I'LL EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER WE TALK,

SIR!
USE THE ANNEX.
YES.

WHO IS THAT WOMAN!? EH!?
UHM!?


NATURALLY, THE ONO CLAN WAS IN CHARGE OF IEYASU'S GUARD TOO...
NOW, KANBEE WAS ABLE TO GET INTO HIS HEART WITH A FALSE BACK-GROUND.
ONO TADAAKI GREATLY FAVORED MEN WITH NATURAL TALENT FOR THE SWORD AND THOSE WHO EARNESTLY WANTED TO IMPROVE THEIR ABILITIES. HE ACCEPTED THEM WITH AN OPEN HEART.


THERE-FORE SHE WENT TO KANBEE...
AND WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF IT...!!
THAT GRAMPA WAS KILLED AND THAT NOW SHE WANTED TO FIND THE GROUP OF ASSASSINS WHO LEFT WITHOUT GIVING HIM THE FINAL BLOW,
AZUMI TOLD KANBEE ...
DESIRING EVEN TOBIZARU'S COOPER-ATION.


IS INTER-ESTED, IT'S FINE...
AND TOBI-ZARU
AND HAVE A PLAN OF YOURS
TOBIZARU...HE RISKS HIS LIFE TO PROCURE ME INFORMATION AND TO COME HERE. IF YOU WANT THOSE...

.....
THANK YOU!!
YES!! I UNDER-STAND...
.....

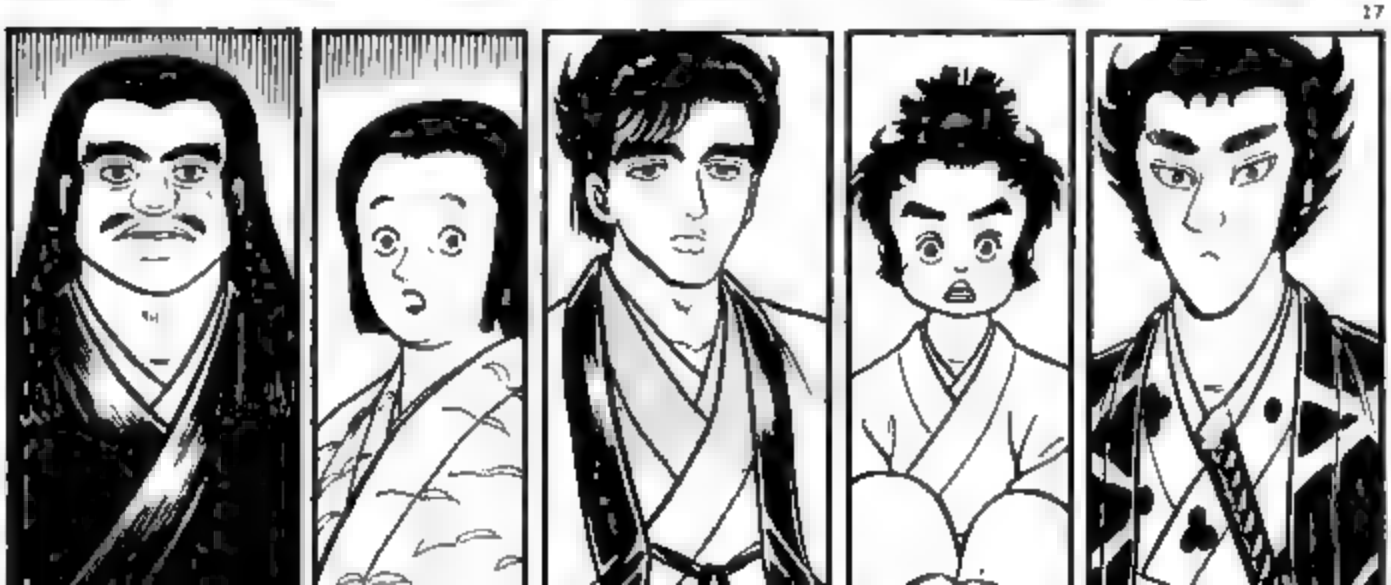
EXCUSE ME,

COULD I BORROW FOR A LITTLE WHILE A SMALL PLACE TO KEEP OUT THE NIGHT DEW!?
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S THE STORAGE ROOM IN THE BACK OR EVEN UNDER THE FLOOR.

I WANT YOU TO LET ME SLEEP THERE AT NIGHT.
WHAT FOR!?

IS IT FAR AWAY !?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR HOME?

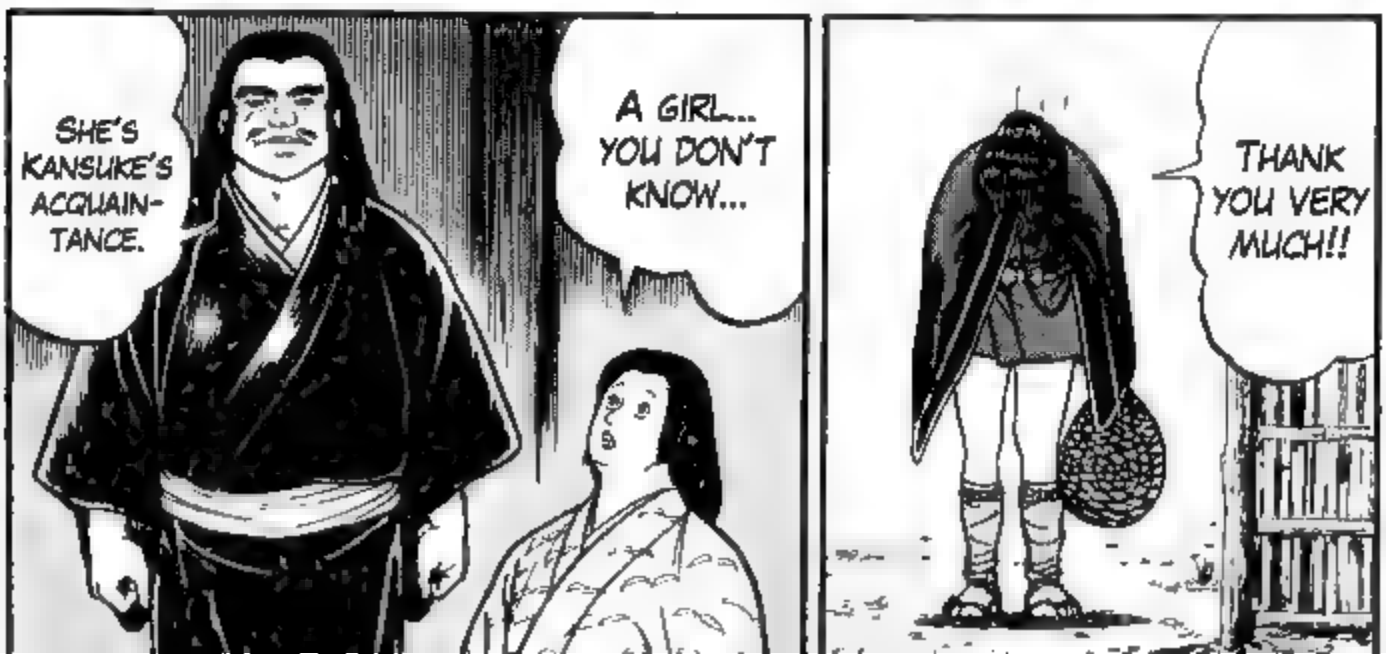
I HAVE NO HOME NOR RELATIEVS.



USING THIS I CAN SLEEP EVERYWHERE.
IF I CAN KEEP OUT THE NIGHT DEW,
THEN, WHERE HAVE YOU SLEPT UNTIL NOW IN THIS COLD!?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
ooo
ooo

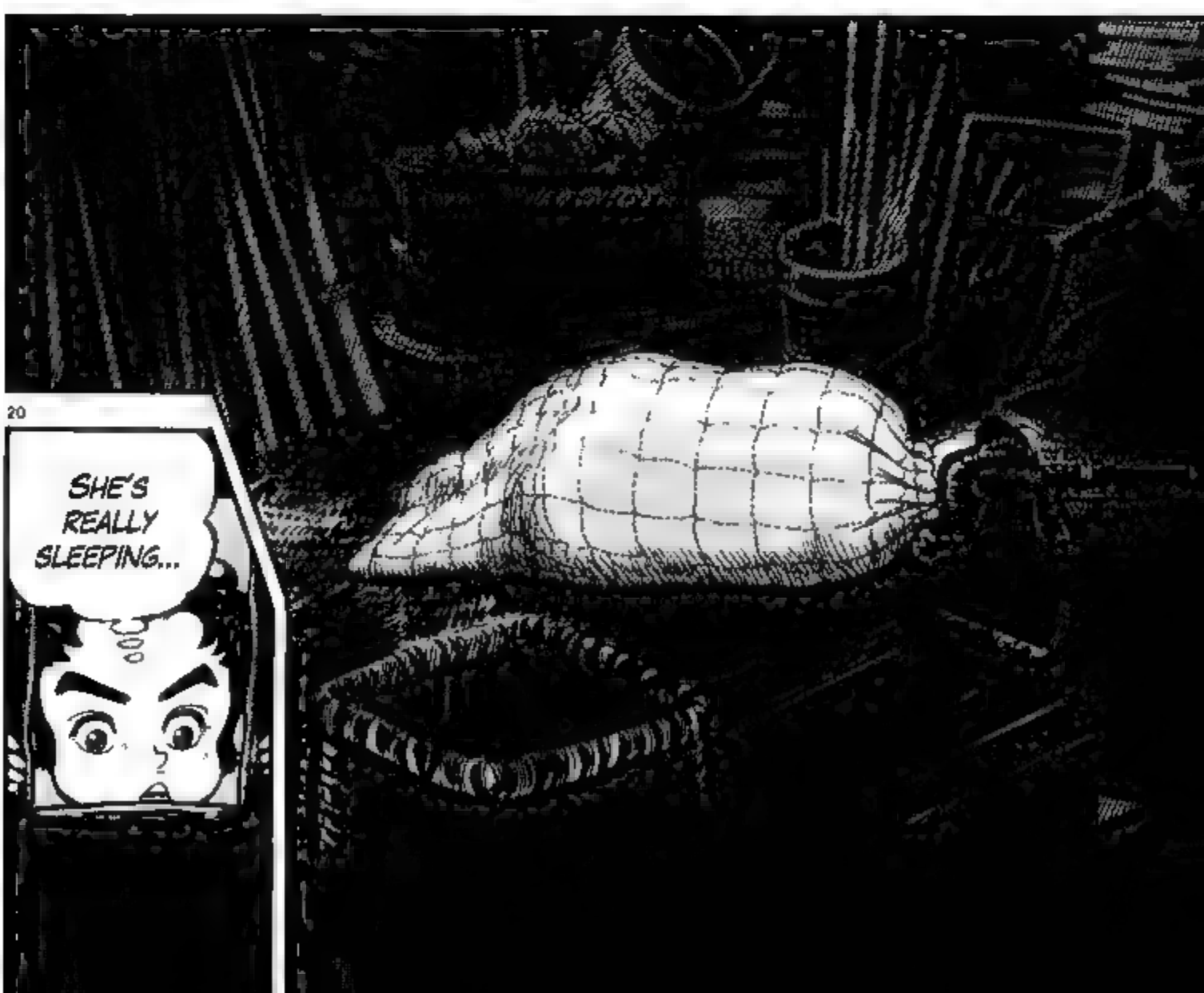
YES.
IS IT ALL RIGHT !?


SHE'S KANSUKE'S ACQUAIN-TANCE.
A GIRL... YOU DON'T KNOW...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!

T-THEN, SHOULDN'T SHE STAY INSIDE THE HOUSE...

S-SHE'S A STRANGE WOMAN, EH?
SHE'S A WEIRDO...

19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SHE'S REALLY SLEEPING...

GOOD MORN-ING.

AS THANKS FOR HAVING BORROWED A PLACE TO SLEEP.
WHY ARE YOU CLEANING !?
EH HE...
EH...
AZUMI.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, BIG SIS?
DO YOU KNOW IT ALREADY !?
EH!!
KO-HYOTA, RIGHT ?
I'M...
AZUMI... EH..?

I WAS SURPRISED.
YOU REALLY SLEPT IN THAT STORAGE...

YES, I KNOW.
REALLY SLEPT OR NOT.
IF KANSUKE-SAN AND SENSEI TOO
I WENT TO PEEP IN SECRET DURING THE NIGHT
YOU KNEW IT!?

GOOD MORNING, YAHEI-SAN!
OH MY...
AAH, GOOD MORN-ING.

NO, I'LL DO THAT PART HERE.
I TOLD YOU THAT I'M DOING THE SWEEPING.

.....
Boo.
LET YAHEI-SAN DO IT. AFTER ALL EVERYONE HAS GOT HIS OWN DUTIES.
NO, NO, IT'S MY JOB.

WHY DO YOU SAY "ORE"?
AZUMI-SAN, EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE A WOMAN...

YOUR EYES ARE BLUISH.
AZUMI-SAN,
.....

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL, AZUMI-SAN.
ANY-WAY...
THIS WILL BE A PROBLEM...
YOUR HAIR TOO IS A BIT BROWN...
EEEH...
BECAUSE I'M OF MIXED BLOOD.

BOTH RINTARO-SAN AND KYOSUKE-SAN
ARE COOL, RIGHT!?
IN WHAT WAY WILL THIS BE A PROBLEM!?

AAAH...
THEY'RE THOSE TWO TOGETHER WITH SENSEI!!
EH!? YOU DON'T KNOW?
WHO!?
UHM !?

THOSE TWO ARE GENIUSES WITH A SWORD AND PEOPLE SAY THEY'RE THE MIGHTY PEERS OF THE ONOHA ITTŌRYŪ. THOSE THREE, SENSEI, RINTARŌ-SAN AND KYŌSUKE-SAN,
ARE THE CURRENT STRONGEST FENCERS
IN THIS BIG COUNTRY!!
WHAT ABOUT KAN-SUKE-DONO!?

YES!! KANSUKE-SAN IS STRONG TOO!! WHEN HE FIGHTS RINTARŌ-SAN AND KYŌSUKE-SAN, IT HAPPENS THAT HE STRIKES THEM TWO OR THREE TIMES OUT OF TEN!!

EEEH.
THEY COULDN'T EVEN STRIKE THEM ONCE!!
THEY SAY THAT ALL THE OTHERS TRIED HUNDREDS OF TIMES, BUT

THAT'S WHY ALL THE WOMEN FALL IMMEDIATELY FOR THEM.
THEY'RE COOL, RIGHT!?
HOWEVER, THOSE TWO AREN'T ONLY STRONG WITH THE SWORD...

WITH WOMEN.
INCREDIBLY QUICK
AFTER ALL, THEY'RE
I'M WORIED FOR YOU, AZUMI-SAN...

SOON... THEY'LL START WORKING ON YOU...
THEY'RE QUICK...?
SPECIAL METHODS TO MAKE WOMEN FALL...
YOU KNOW, THEY EACH HAVE THEIR OWN...

BOLDLY COMES CLOSER LIKE THIS....

RINTARO-SAN...

WHAT A THING TO SAY!! IT'S EMBARASSING, RIGHT!?

"HEY HEY, I WAS UNINTENTIONALLY DRAWN IN...WHAT PRETTY EYES YOU HAVE!!"

KYŌSUKE-SAN'S BEST METHOD IS THE FLUTE.

FOR REAL.
BUT, DOING THAT, WOMEN FALL.

AND HE MAKES THEM QUIETLY LISTEN TO HIS FLUTE PLAY...
HE GETS CLOSER TO THE WOMEN HE'S AIMING FOR...

END UP GETTING ENCHANTED.
DOING THAT, WOMEN

IT WILL BE BAD...
THEY WON'T LET YOU ALONE...
AZUMI-SAN, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL...

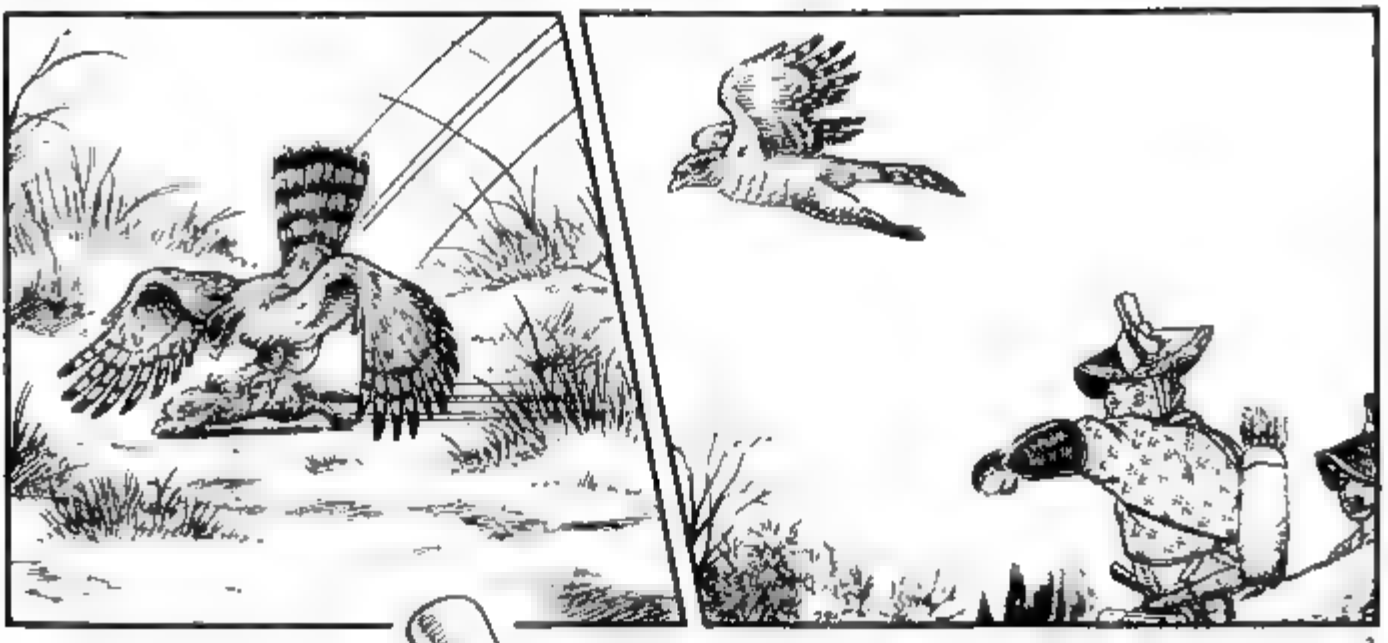
Azumi
CHAPTER 65
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

30

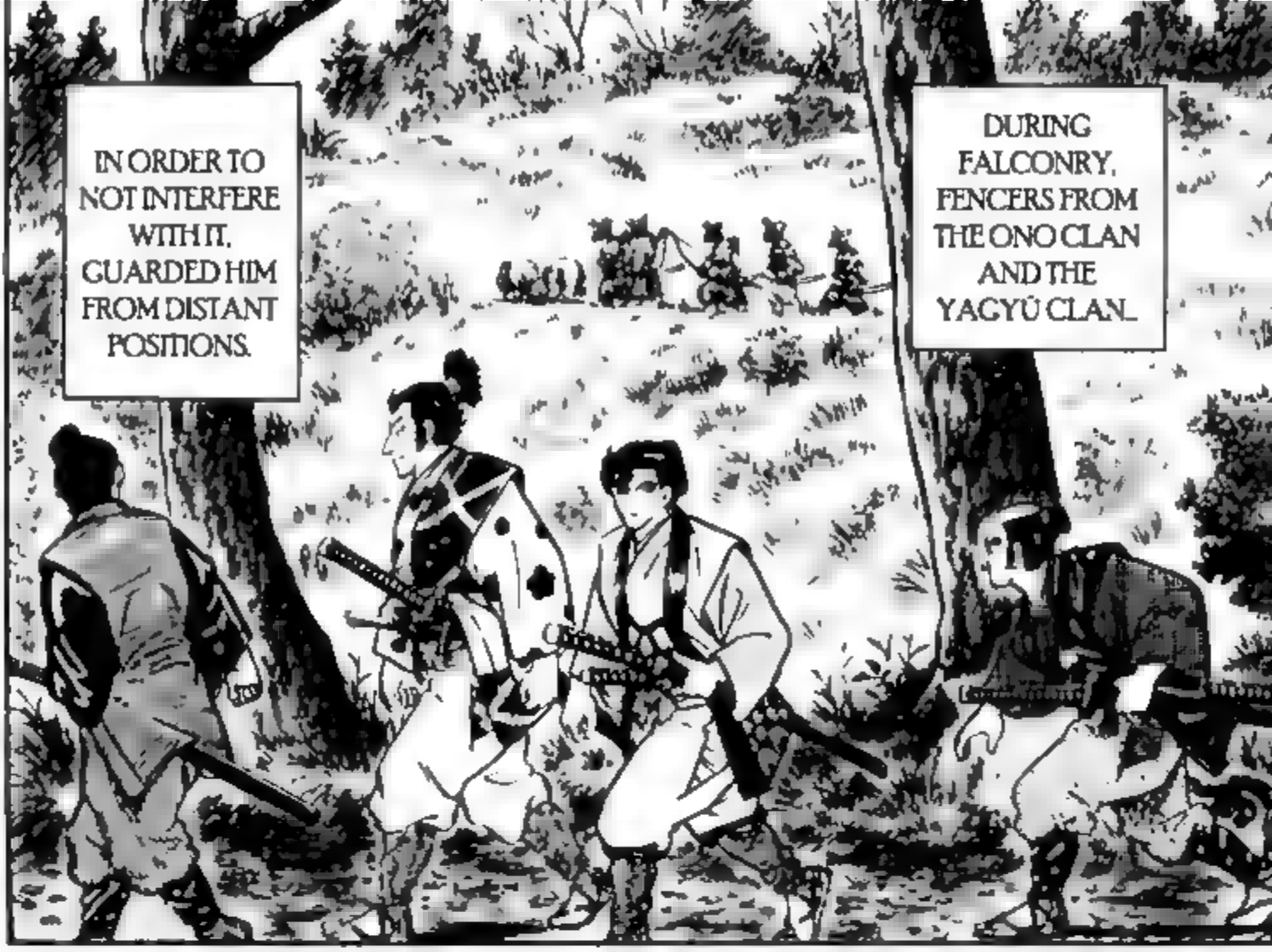
Chapter 7: Falconry And Overnight

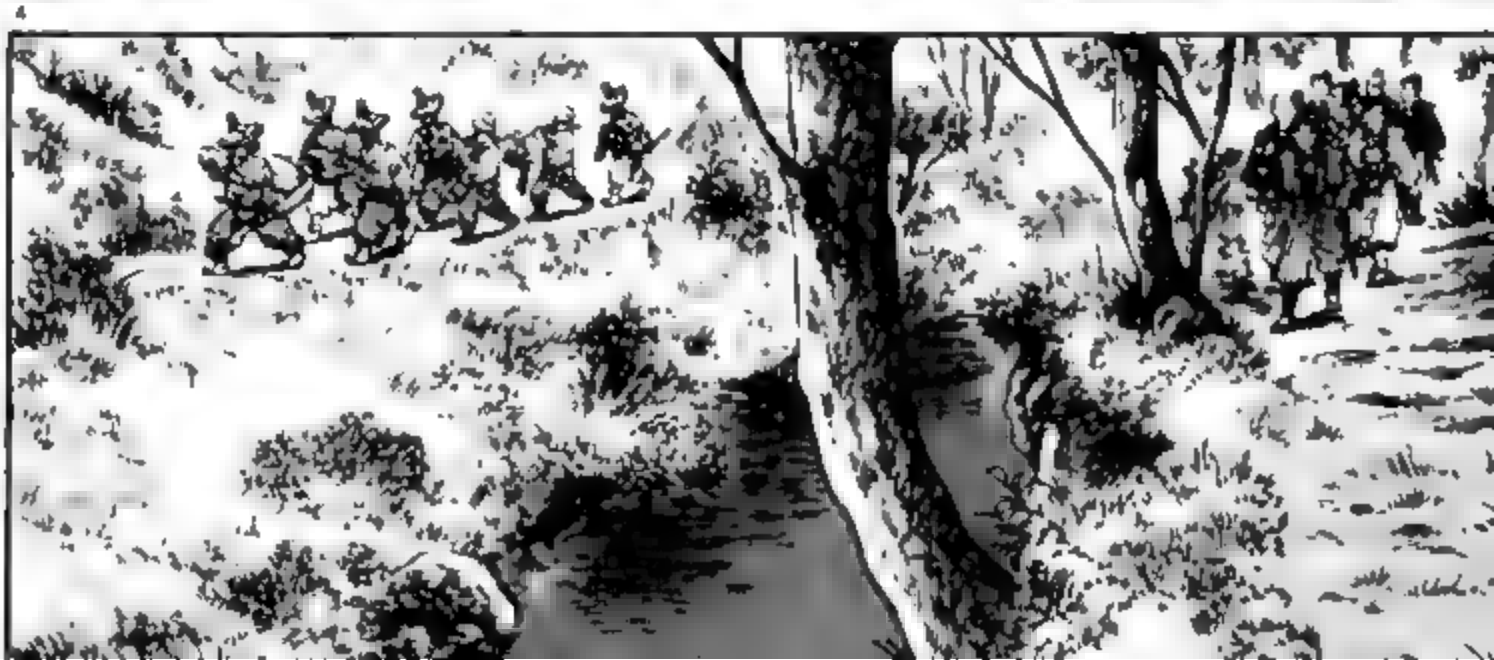
DURING HIS LIFETIME, IEYASU MADE AN EFFORT TO TRAIN BOTH MIND AND BODY
FENCING, RIDING HORSES, SWIMMING...THEY SAY HE DID NOT NEGLECT HIS DAILY ROUTINE EVEN AFTER HE URNED SEVENTY.
AMONG THOSE, HE ESPECIALLY ENJOYED FALCONRY AS A TEMPERING METHOD THAT COMBINED HIS HOBBIES WITH BENEFITS.
"FALCONRY IS NOT JUST ENTERTAIN-MENT BY CAPTURING WILDLIFE"
WHEN YOU TRAVEL TO THE FAR OUTSKIRTS, YOU OB-SERVE THE SUBJECTS' LIFESTYLES"

"CROSSING MOUNTAINS AND HILLS, WADING RIVERS..BY DIFFERENT MOVEMENTS YOU FIRMLY TEMPER THE WHOLE BODY"..HE SAID, AND SO HE FREQUENTLY SET OUT.



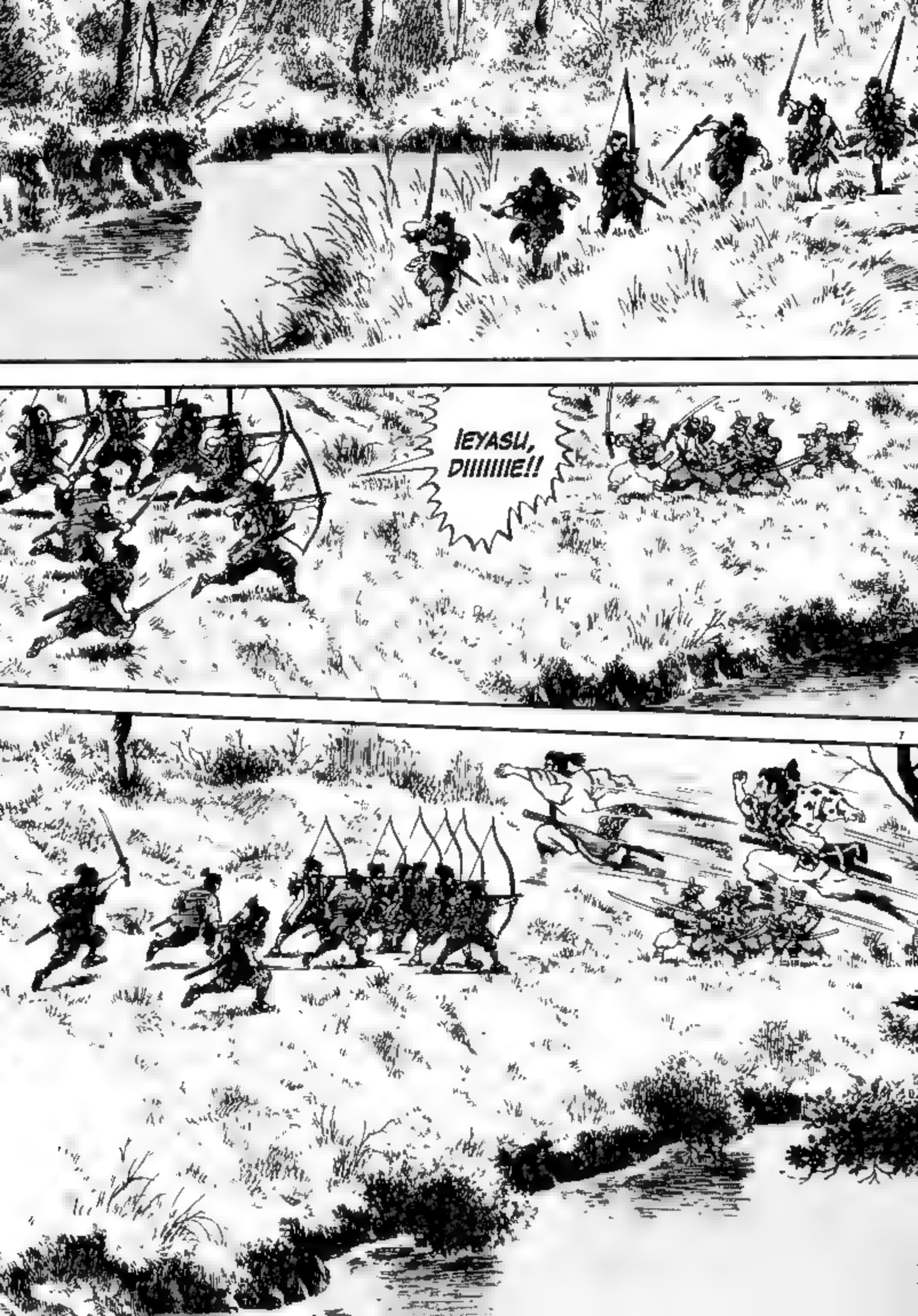
PERFECT!!


IN ORDER TO NOT INTERFERE WITH IT, GUARDED HIM FROM DISTANT POSITIONS.
DURING FALCONRY, FENCERS FROM THE ONO CLAN AND THE YAGYŪ CLAN



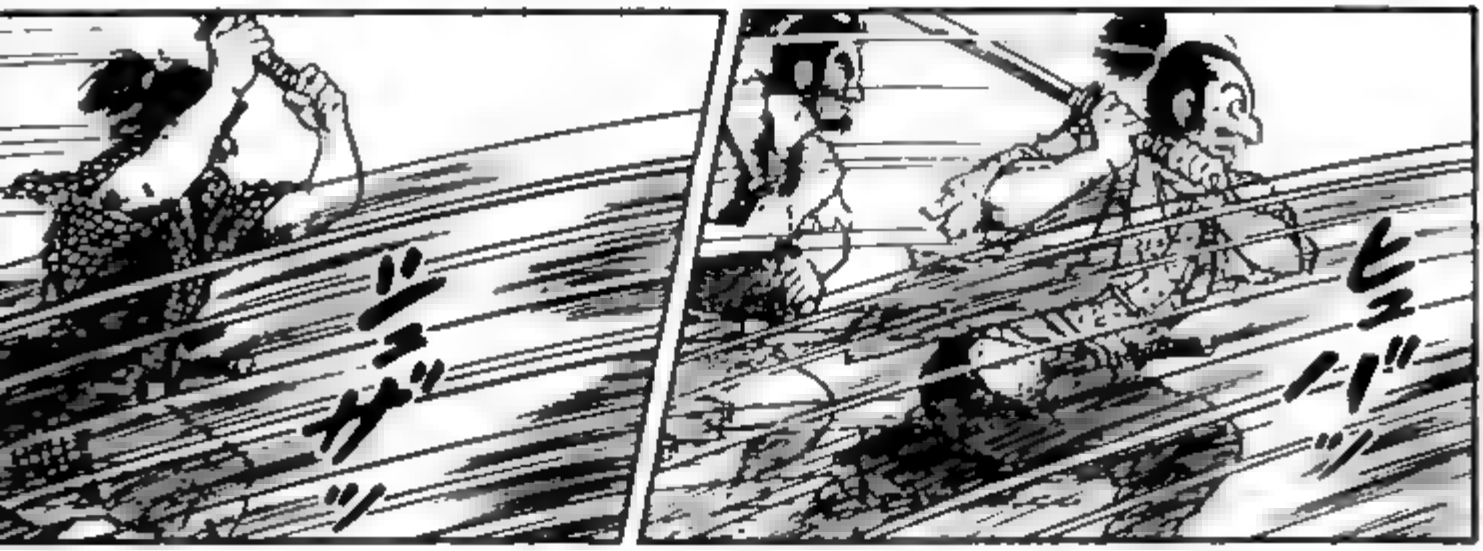
AH!!
OH!!

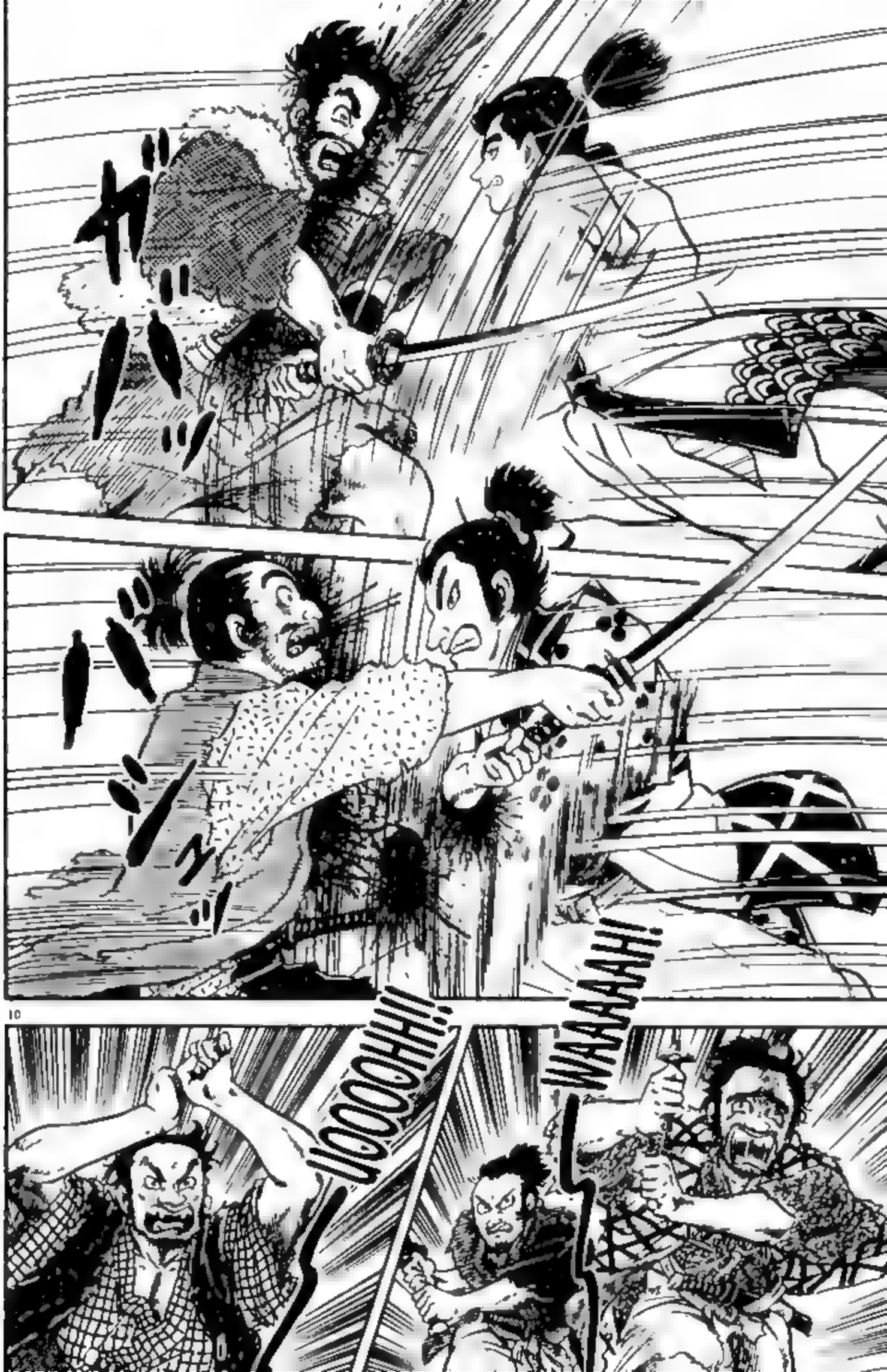
R-RUF-
FIANS!!
AAAH,
DAMN!!
ｽﾞﾀﾞ!!


IEYASU,
DIIIIIIIE!!

UGH
!!

SAVOR THE HATRED OF THE HONORABLE TOYOTOMI!!!!!!!!
IEYASU, PREPARE YOURSELF !!

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NAAAAAH!
NOOOOH!

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

ITTORYŪ RIGHT?
THAT SWORD-MAN-SHIP...
LIHM!! YOU TWO DID GREAT!!
ONOHA ITTORYŪ!!
YES!!
SIIIIR!!
YOU DID SPLENDID !!
TADAAKI'S DISCIPLES, EH!?

.....

HE REMOVED THE YAGYOS AS HIS GUARDS
HERE-AFTER,
TODAY, IEYASU-SAMA WAS GREATLY SATISFIED WITH KYOSUKE AND RINTARO'S WORK THAT,

AND PUT IN CHARGE OUR ONOHA ITTORYU IN ITS ENTIRETY !!
WHILE IN SUN-PU...
SERVES YOU RIGHT!! DAMN YAGYUS, FUCK OFF!!
HOORAY!
OOOHHH!!
OOOH!
OOOH!
OOOH!
.....

WE MUST PROTECT IEYASU-SAMA AT THE COST OF OUR LIFE!!
MOREOVER, THERE COULD BE ATTACKS LIKE THE ONE TODAY!
IT'S AN IMPOR-TANT DUTY!!

.....
WAH HA HA HA
HA HA HA
WAH HA HA HA
HA HA HA
ALL RIGHT!!

UHM!! TODAY'S JOB WAS SERIOUSLY DRAINING!
THEN, EXCUSE US.

IT WAS...
YES.
RIN-TARO.
KYO-SUKE,

THE FIRST TIME YOU BOTH TOOK A LIFE, RIGHT?

.....
I KILLED... FOR THE FIRST TIME...
YES...

SOMETHING LIKE A HEAVY WEIGHT THAT AS FENCERS...YOU HAVE TO PLACE IN THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEARTS.
THAT IS...
THOUSANDS OF TIMES WITH A WOODEN SWORD...
YOU SHOULD HAVE CAUGHT HOLD OF SOMETHING THAT...YOU CANNOT OBTAIN EVEN PRACTICING...

AND TADAAKI AGREED.

KOHYÔTA CAME OUT WITH "PUT AZUMI-SAN IN MY ROOM",

IT WAS INSIDE ONO TADAAKI'S MANSION BECAUSE IN THE LODGING HOUSE WHERE EMPLOYEES, KANBEE AND THE OTHER DISCIPLES WHO STAYED OVER FOR THE NIGHT THERE WERE NO MORE VACANT ROOMS...

FROM THE SECOND NIGHT, IT WAS DECIDED AZUMI WOULD SLEEP IN KOHYÔTA'S ROOM.

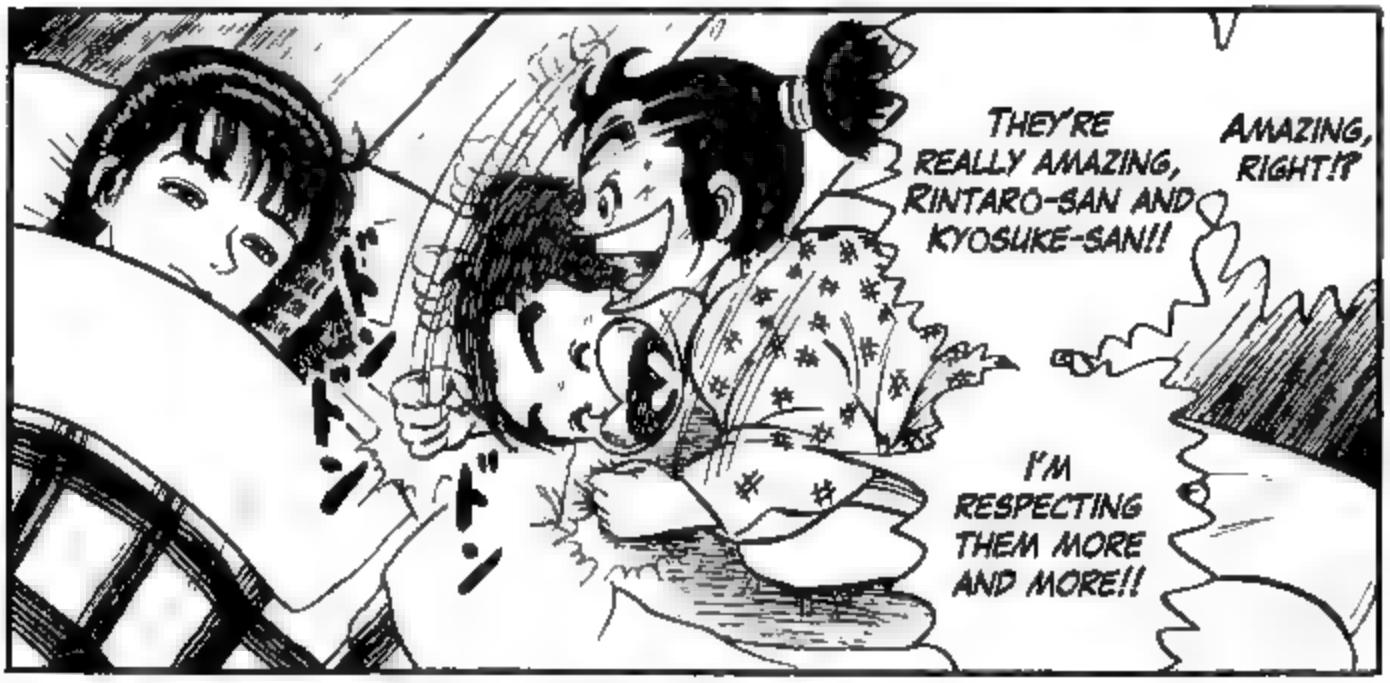
AFTER HIS FATHER DIED IN BATTLE, TADA-AKI TOOK HIM IN AND FORCED HIS EDUCATION IN SWORDPLAY

KOHYÔTA'S FATHER WAS AN OLD FRIEND OF TADAAKI.

ONLY THOSE TWO, RINTARO-SAN AND KYOSUKE-SAN...
BUT...
RIGHT AMONG THEM THERE WAS A LONG AND NARROW POND, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE OTHER GUARDS TO GO NEAR IEYASU!!
TOOH!!
YAH!!
THE ENEMIES ATTACKS CAME AND...
AND COVERED IEYASU-SAMA STANDING THERE FIRMLY!!
JUMPED OVER IT IN A FLASH,

TAAAH!!
WITH SINGLE SWINGS ...

THEY TOOK CARE OF THEM IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE, YOU KNOW!!


THEY'RE REALLY AMAZING, RINTARO-SAN AND KYOSUKE-SAN!!
AMAZING, RIGHT!?
I'M RESPECTING THEM MORE AND MORE!!
ドン
ドン

……
AAAH!...I ALSO WANT TO QUICKLY BECOME STRONG LIKE RINTARO-SAN AND KYOSUKE-SAAAAN!!

AAH!
AAH!
AH!
AH!

ドス
ドス
AAAH!
AH!
HA!HAA!

ベリ
I CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE...
ガラ
ガ
ガ

HANF
HANF
RINTARO-SAMA, TONIGHT, YOU'RE SOME-WHAT...
WHAT HAP-PENED !?
HANF
HANF
HANF
HANF
HANF
YOU'RE GONNA BREAK ME...
HANF

SCARY ...
HANF
HANF
HANF
HANF
HANF

OUCH!!

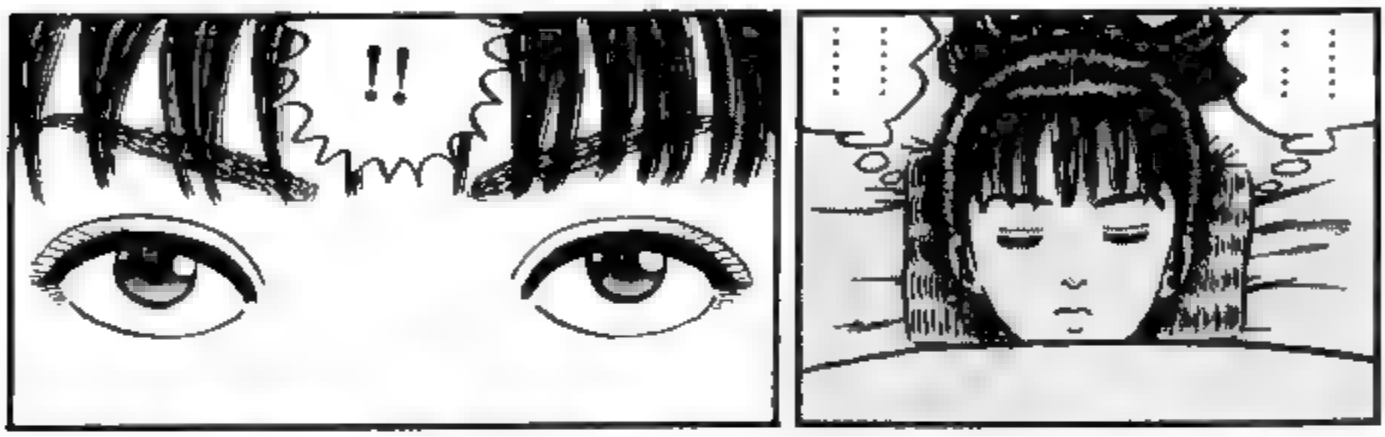
Y-YOU'RE SQUEEZING IT TOO MUCH... KYOSUKE-SAMA ...

THAT BLOOD IS CIRCLING INSIDE THIS WHOLE BODY...
INSIDE YOU TOO, A HEART BEATS AND MAKES YOUR BLOOD BOIL...

THE SKIN... IT'S JUST ONLY THIS THIN SKIN THAT...
A HUMAN BODY...

COVERS THE BLOOD THAT WANTS TO OVERFLOW OUT OF IT...
KYŌ-SUKE-SAMA ...

ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ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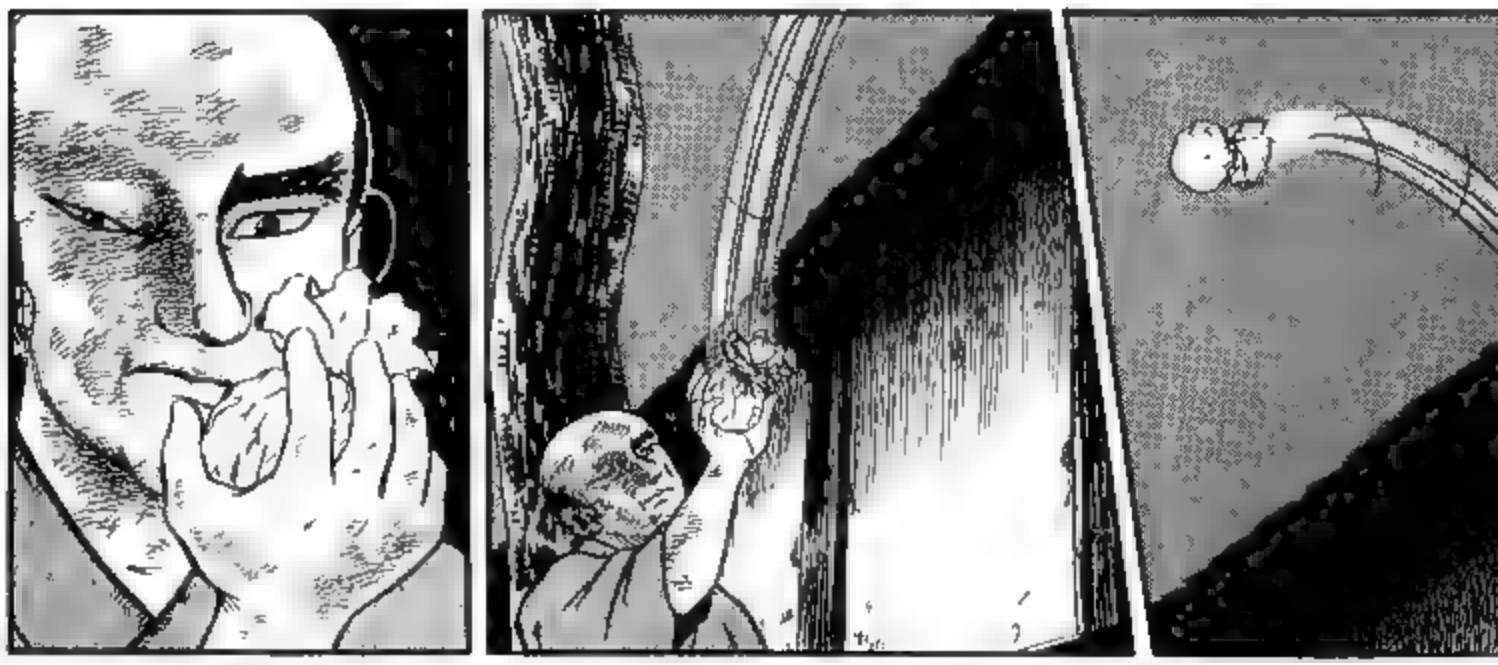

THE ROADS HE MUST PASS AND WHERE IT'S DECIDED HE RESTS UP...THAT PLACE IS...
IEYASU'S FALCONRY AND EVERY LAST HUNTING GROUND...

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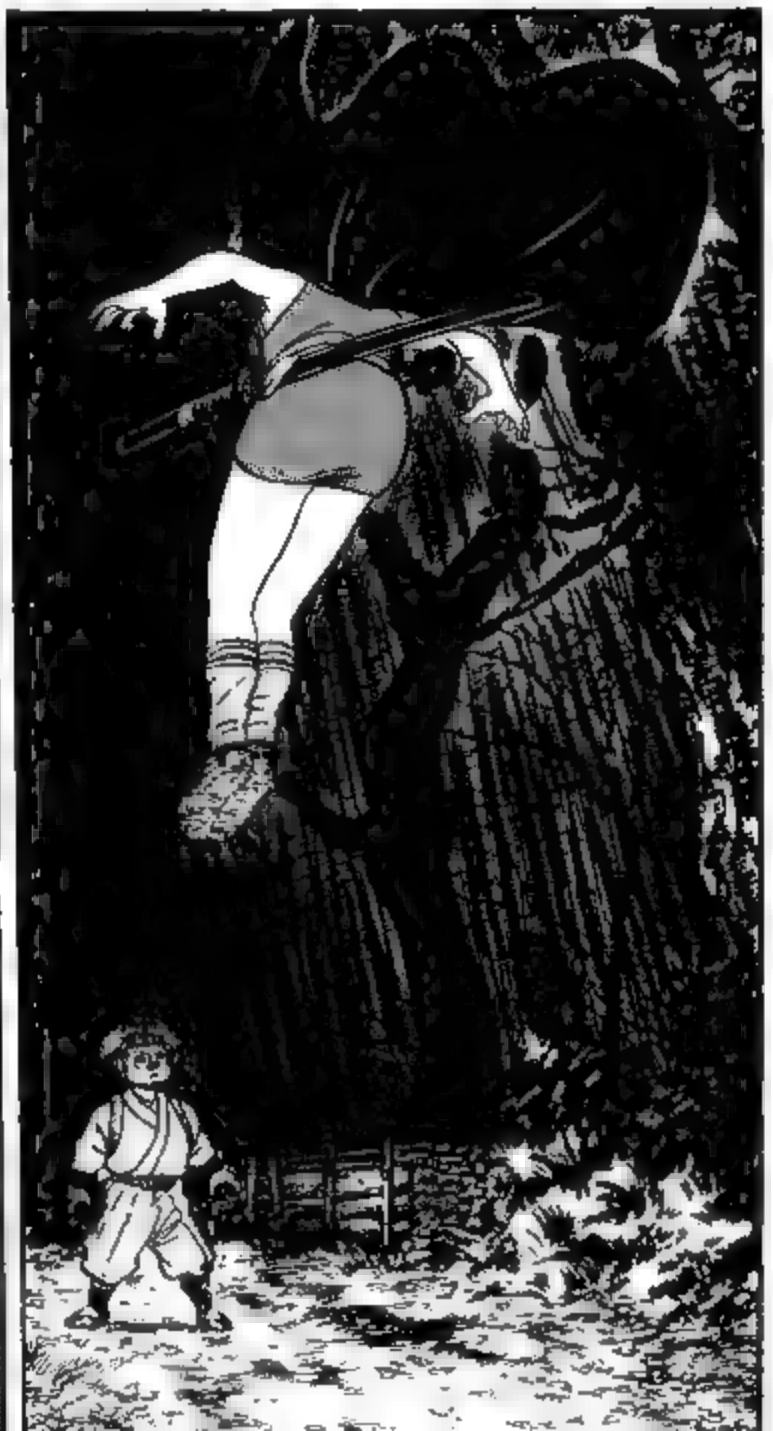


THERE'S NO ONE PRESENT AROUND HERE.
DON'T JUMP OUT WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT! I'LL BE SUSPECTED TOO!
OINTMENTS

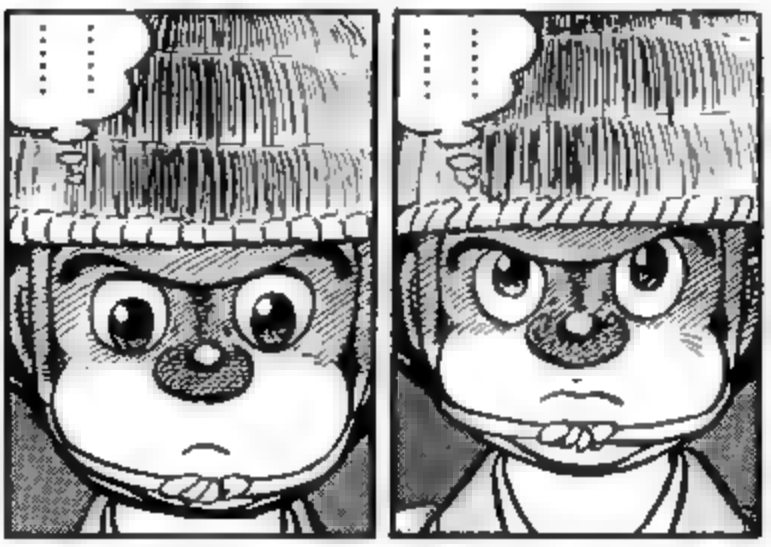
I CAN THANK YOU FOR THAT.
THEY'RE INFORMATION THAT YOU, TOBIZARU-DONO, RISK YOUR LIFE TO OBTAIN.

LIKE I ASKED YOU THE OTHER TIME...CAN'T YOU, SOMEHOW, SHARE INFORMATION WITH ME!?

AND...IF I CAN DO SOMETHING, IF I CAN BE OF HELP TO YOU, I WANT YOU TO ASK ME WITHOUT RESERVE.
IF IT'S MONEY, GRAMPA LEFT ME QUITE A LOT OF IT. TELL ME HOW MUCH YOU WANT!

MONEY DOESN'T WORK WITH ME.

DON'T YOU HAVE SOME REQUESTS!?
THEN, WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?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I CAN'T DO THAT!!

ENTERTAIN WITH THAT BODY!?
WON'T YOU LET ME...

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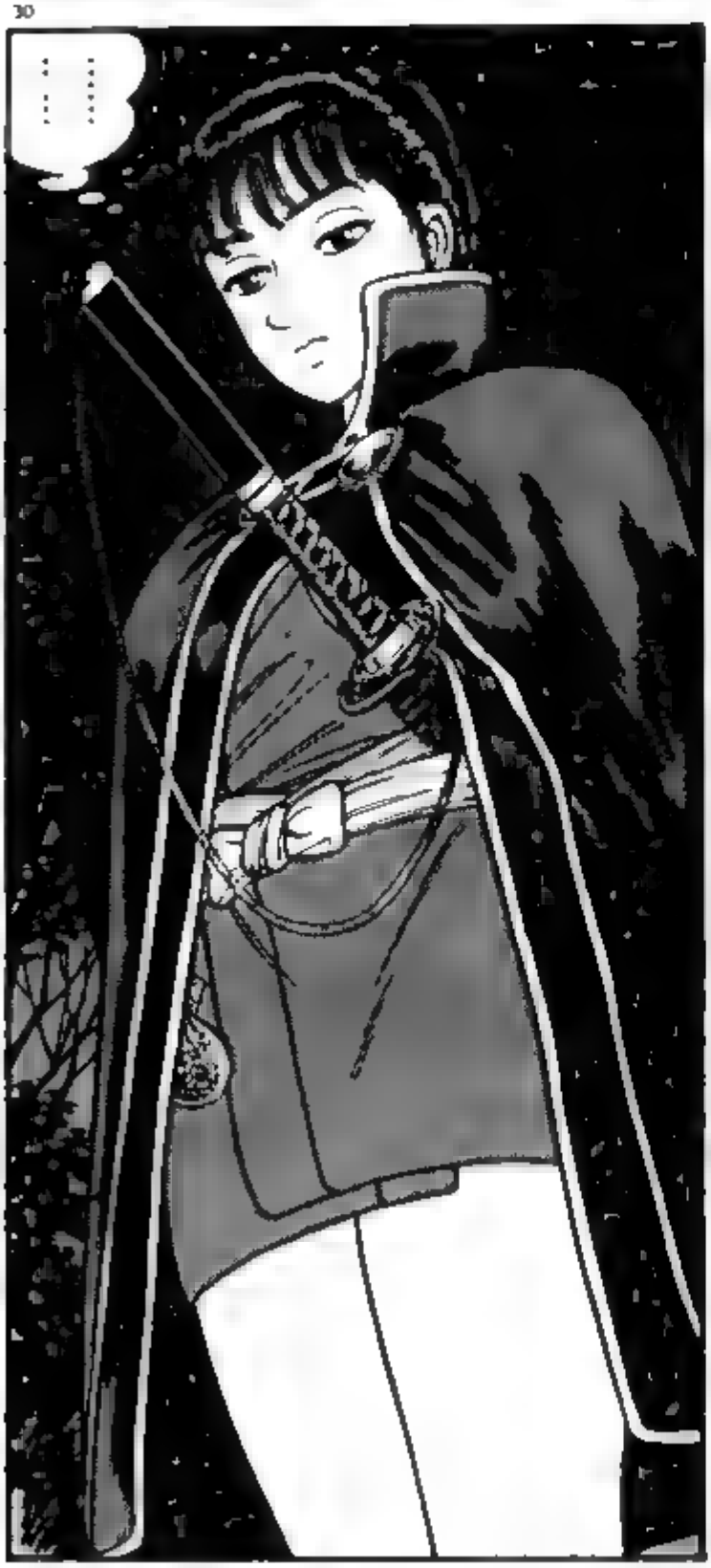
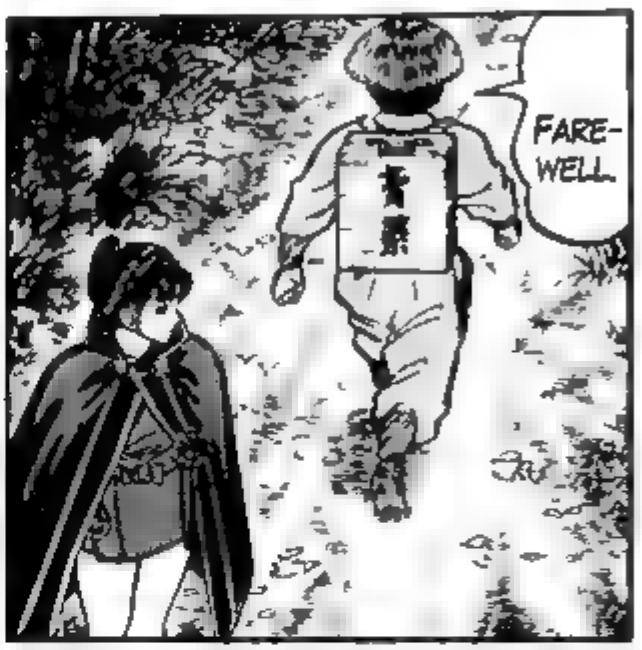
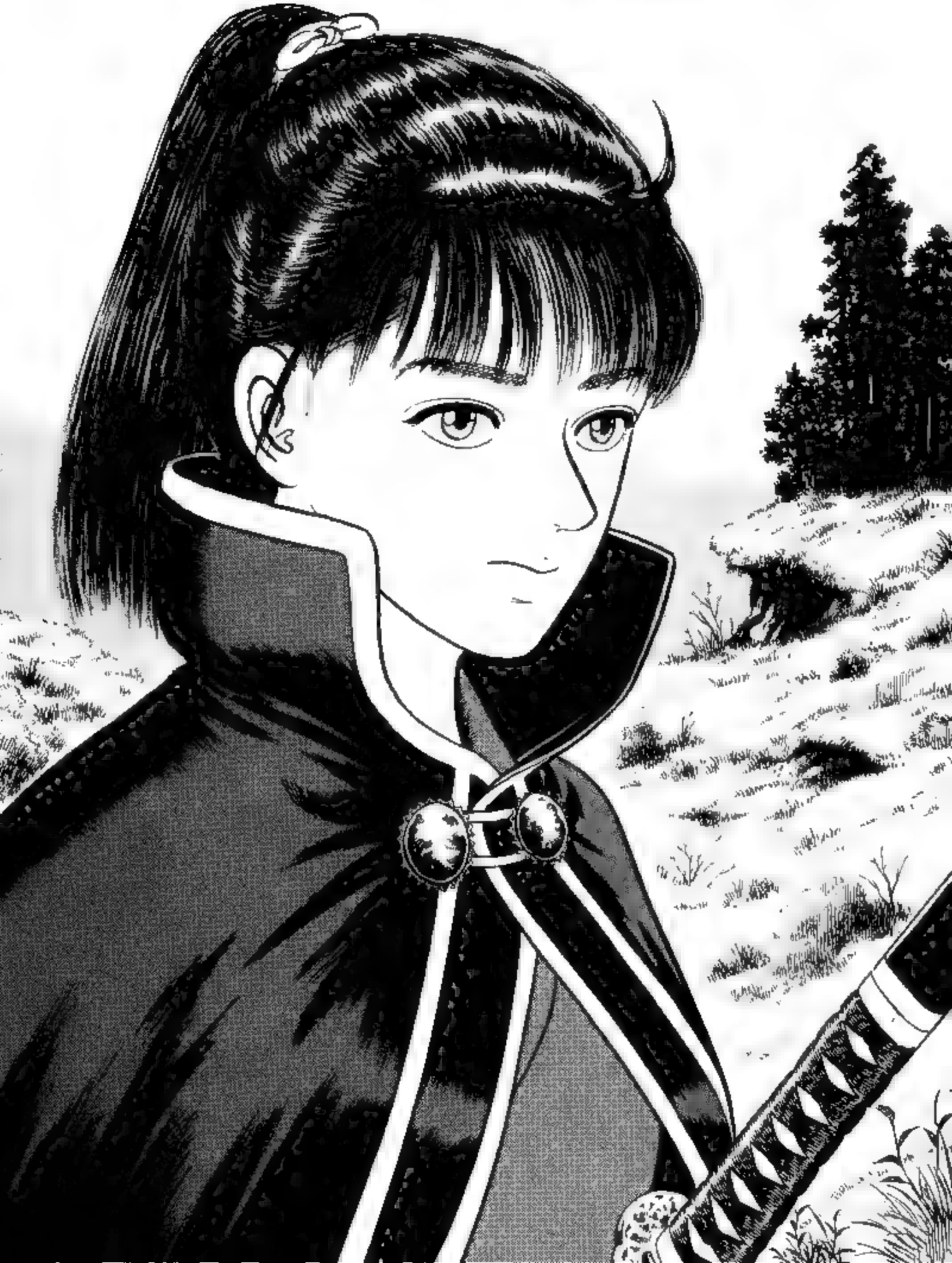




Azumi
CHAPTER 66
PRESENTED BY
GUREN NO HEYA KARA
AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

Chapter 8: Preliminary Inspection



REALLY!?
CAN I COME TOO!?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED, THEY TOLD US TO TAKE YOU ALONG.

.....

I WONDER IF I CAN COME TOO...

A PRELIMINARY INSPECTION OF THE HUNTING GROUND!?
YES!! IN ORDER TO PERFECTLY GUARD IN THE HUNTING GROUND, WE NEED TO DO A THOUROUGH PRELIMARY INSPECTION!!
IT'S AN IMPORTANT DUTY AFTER ALL!!

I-I'LL TRY ASKING !!

AZUMI-SAN TOO...

AZUMI-SAN SAYS SHE WANTS TO COME ALONG TOO!
OK? IT'S FINE, RIGHT? SHE ABSOLUTELY WON'T BE A NUISANCE!!
IT WASN'T AZUMI THAT SAID THAT BUT YOU WHO INVITED HER, RIGHT, KOHYOTA?

ALL RIGHT, I ALLOW IT.
BUT DON'T INVITE ANY OTHERS!! IT'S NOT A GAME!!

YES !!
WAH HAAA !!
OTAMA-SAAAAN, ADD ANOTHER LUNCH BOX!!

PREPARE FOR FOUR PEOPLE!! FOR FOUR!!

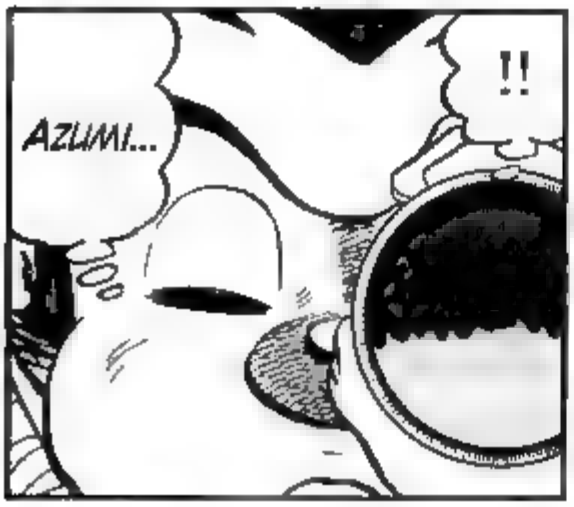
.....
THERE'RE THREE HUNTING GROUNDS FOR IEYASU-SAMA'S FALCONRY. THIS IS A DIFFERENT PLACE FROM THE ONE WHERE HE WAS ATTACKED YESTERDAY.

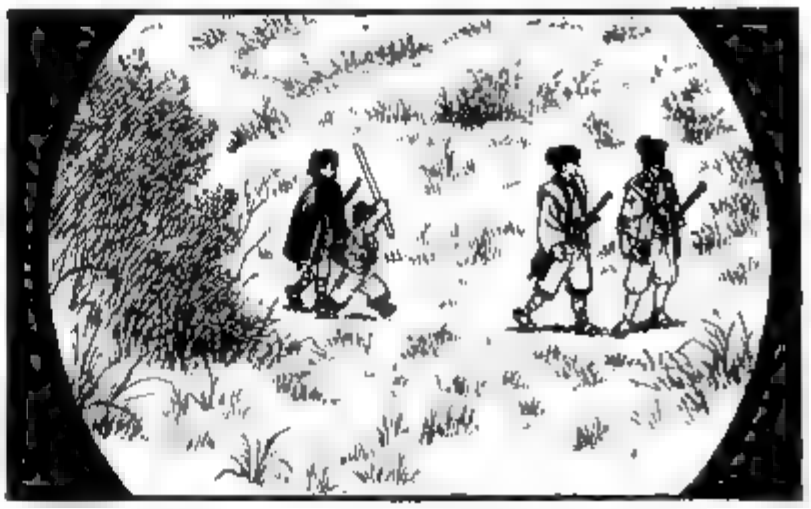
THE PREY WOULD ESCAPE!! SO, WE MUST PROTECT HIM FROM SEPARATE LOCATIONS TO NOT INTERFERE WITH HIS FALCONRY.
TO GUARD FALCONRY IS DIFFICULT. AFTER ALL, IF A LOT OF PEOPLE LOUDLY WALKED NEAR IEYASU-SAMA...

WE WILL HAVE TO WALK ON THAT SIDE.
IN THE CASE HE PASSES THROUGH HERE
YES...
THINKING ABOUT WHERE TO HIDE, THERE'RE A LOT OF PLACES WHERE A FEW PEOPLE COULD...

YES.
LET'S MEMORIZE THE PLACES WE SHOULD WALK ON BOTH SIDES WHEN SPLITTING IN TWO GROUPS.

YOU'RE RIGHT...


!!
AZUMI...



SHE'S LOOKING THIS WAY...
UHM!?
!!
.....
DON'T TELL ME THAT...

THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD SPOT M...
THERE'S SUCH A DISTANCE AND I'M HIDDEN IN THE BRANCHES...

SHE'S ALREADY SPOTTED ME...
U-UNBE-LIEVA-BLE...

!!

AT A HUNTING GROUND, KANBEE-DONO WANTS...
SO, AS I THOUGHT, TOBIZARU-DONO WAS SCOUTING THE HUNTING GROUNDS TOO...
I SEE...

SHE WAS RAISED DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS.. AZUMI WAS TRAINED BY GRAMPA AND NATURALLY HER EYESIGHT AND HEARING PERCEIVE THE SMALL CHANGES IN THE BIRDS' AND BEASTS' MOVEMENTS AND IN THE INSECTS' SOUNDS..HER ABILITY TO SENSE HUMAN PRESENCE SURPASSES THAT OF THE COMMON FOLK BY FAR.

KOHYOTA, IT'S TIME TO HAVE LUNCH.
YAAAY!! I WAS ALREADY HUNGRY!!
HERE, AZUMI-SAN!
THANK YOU.

I HEARD THAT YOU LIVE SHOWING SOME ACROBATICS AND SO ON, BUT...
DO YOU DO ANY MARTIAL ARTS MOVES AS WELL?

I SEE.
NOW I UNDER-STAND!

I PRACTICED SHURIKEN THROWING AND EVASION.

DURING YOUR ACROBATICS, DID YOU USE THAT DOUBLE-HEADED SWORD TOO!?

FEELING YOUR OPPO-NENT'S "KI"
IS SOME-THING A NORMAL PERSON COULDN'T DO.

AZUMI-SAN IS AN ORPHAN, HER MASTER DIED AND SHE SAID THAT HER COMRADE RETURNED IN A FAR AWAY PLACE CALLED TANGO...
SHE'S ALL ALONE, YOU KNOW.

THIS IS MY FATHER'S MEMENTO.

WELL, IN THAT CASE...

WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO FROM NOW ON!?

I KNOW HOW TO LIVE ALONE.

HUUUF, I'M FUUULL!!
KYŌSUKE-SAN...IS PLAYING FOR AZUMI-SAN...

SHE'S GETTING CHARMED BY IT... AZUMI-SAN...
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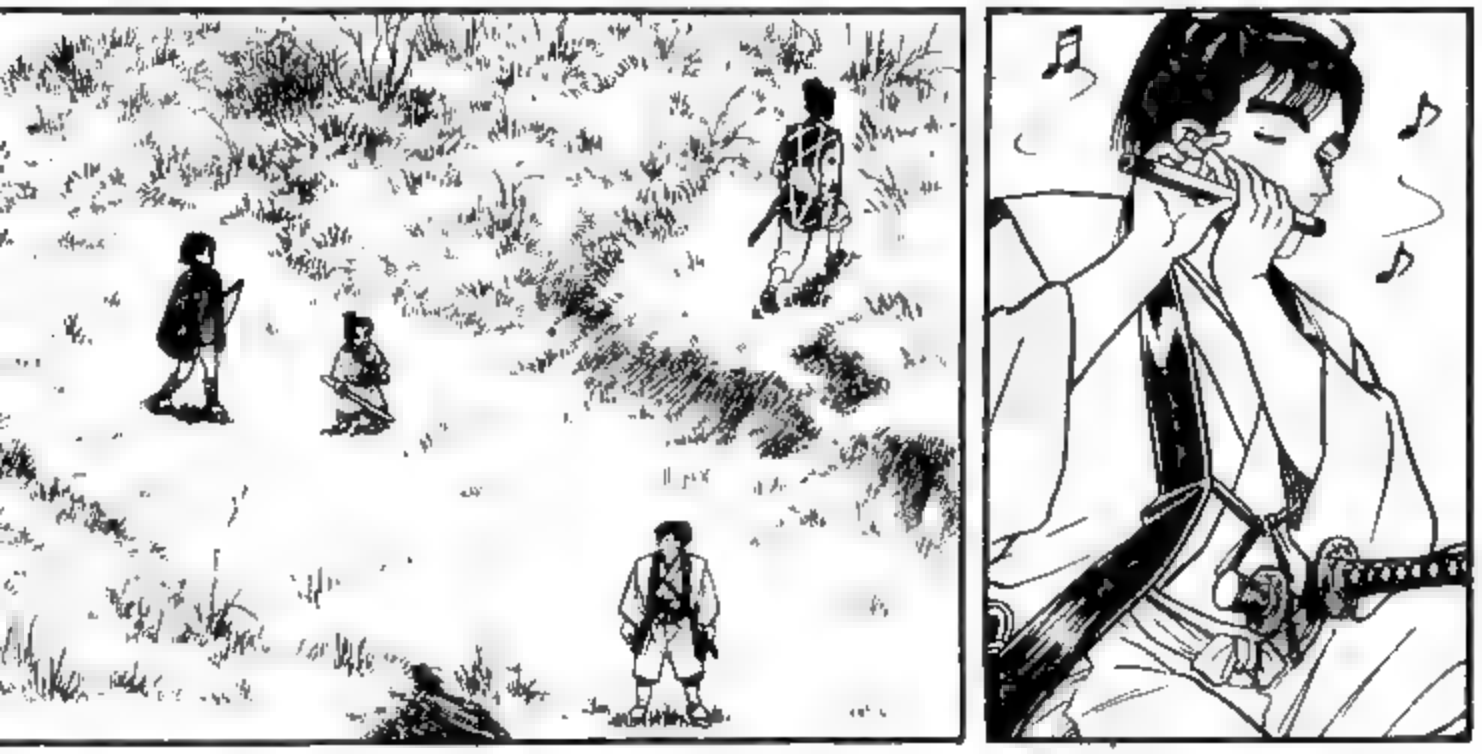
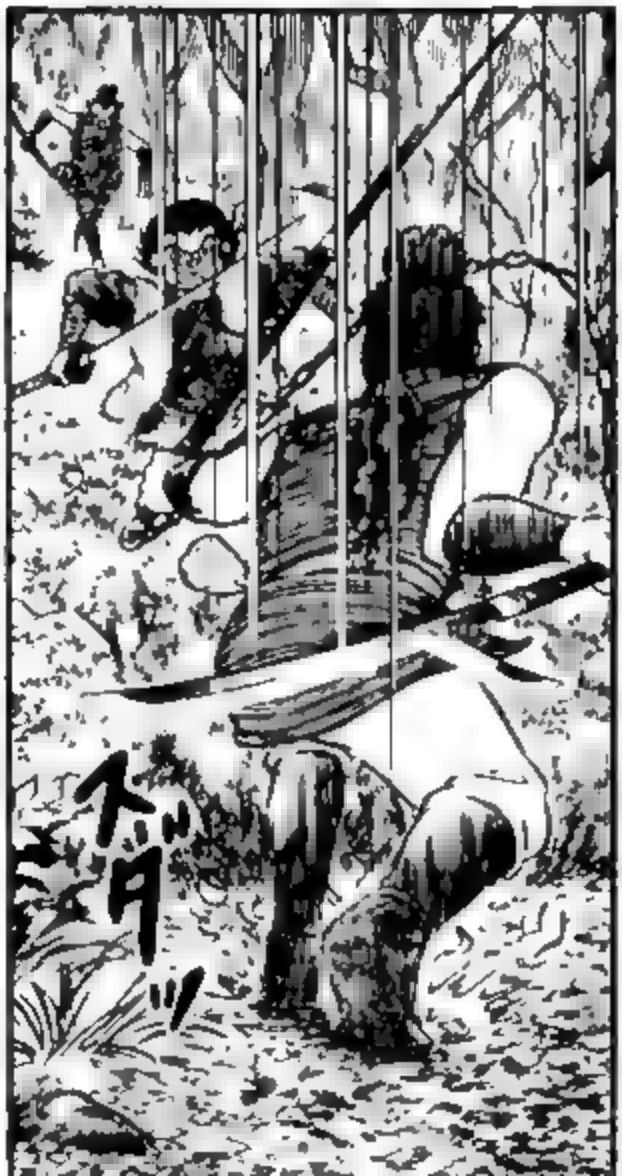
チーラッ



TOBI-ZARU-DONO...
!!...

WHERE'RE YOU GOING!?
WHAT FOR!?
FOR A MOMENT YOU SAY?
EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT
OH? AZUMI-SAN, WHERE'RE YOU GOING!?
EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT
AZUMI-SAN!!
OH, NO...
SO IT WAS FOR THAT...
AH!!
EH!?
BE CONSIDERATE.
KOHYOTA.
TOOOH!!!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DIDN'T DO IT TOO.

ヒュン
サッ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ギャリ・ン
ガッ

AND THERE'S NOT A SINGLE ONE OF US WHO THINKS OF YOU AS HIS TEACHER!!
DON'T FUCK WITH ME!! LOTS OF PEOPLE RESENT YOU,
TOBIZARU...TO THINK THAT I WOULD MEET AGAIN WITH MY STUDENT OF THE DEAR SHINOBI VILLAGE IN THIS WAY...

YOU'LL ALWAYS REMAIN A BRAT.
AS IF FOR A SHINOBI TOKUGAWA AND TOYOTOMI MEANT SOMETHING.

TO EASILY CHANGE SIDES TO TOKUGAWA IS INDEED SOMETHING TYPICAL OF YOU!

YOU KNOW MY METHODS OF TORTURE, EH?
TALK!! SPILL EVERY-THING!!
NO MAN ALIVE CAN WITHSTAND THEM!

IF YOU WANT YOUR LIVES TO BE SPARED, LEAVE!!
STOP!!

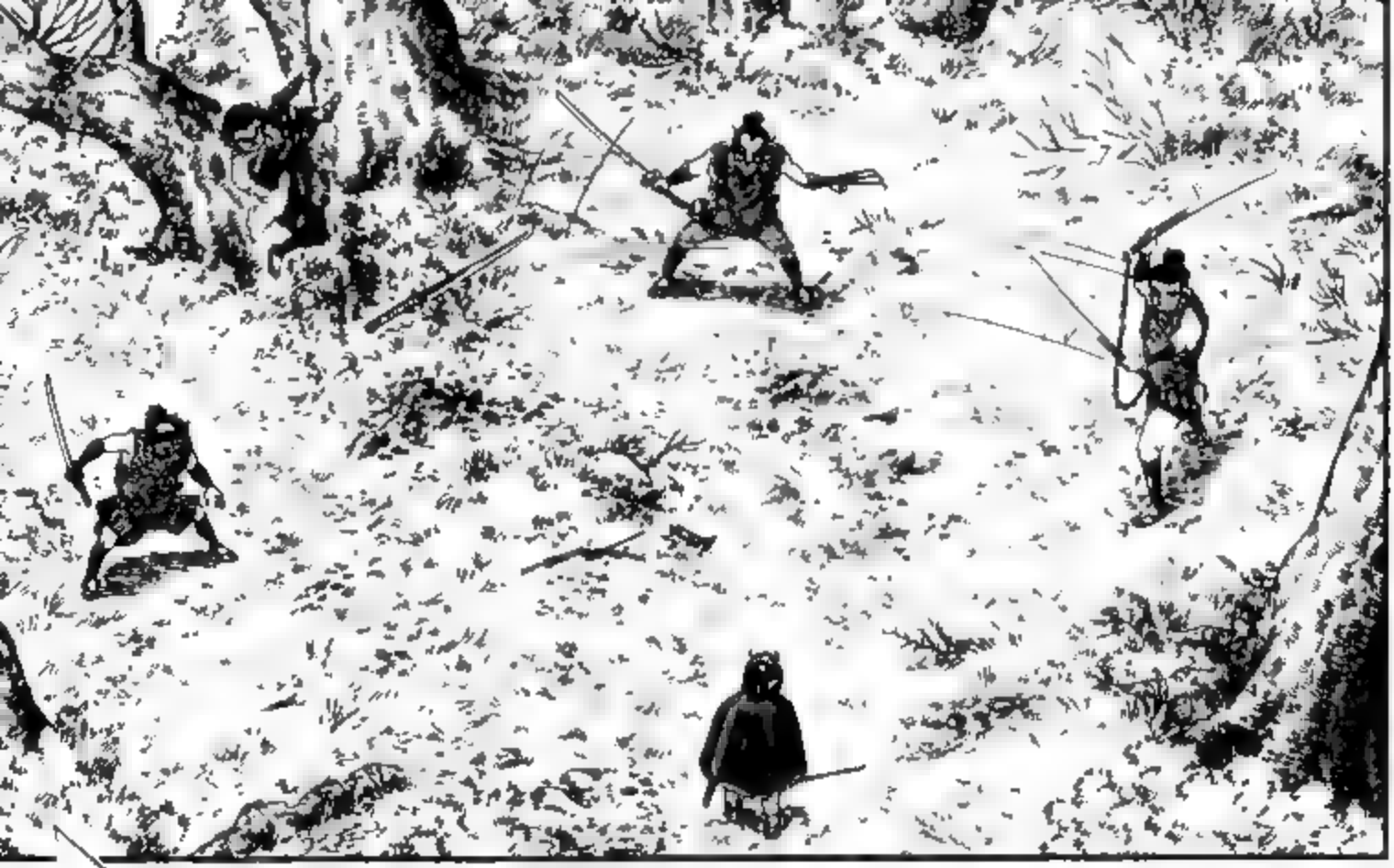
WHAT!?
WHAT THE...A WOMAN...

OR ELSE, JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING I RESEARCHED WILL GO TO WASTE!!
DON'T LET A SINGLE ONE OF THEM GET AWAY ALIVE!!
AZUMI!! I'VE TOLD THEM EVERYTHING!!

ALL THE HARDSHIPS UNTIL TODAY... WILL COME TO NOTHING!!
KANBEE-SAMA'S RESENT-MENT...
THE INFOR-MATION YOU WANT...

.....
KILL THEM, AZUMI!!
DON'T LEAVE ANYONE ALIVE!!

AH, AS IF I WOULD!!
HEY, DON'T SHOW MERCY JUST BECAUSE SHE'S A WOMAN!
THIS GIRL SEEMS LIKE SHE CAN USE THAT.



I'M COUNTING ON YOU, AZUMI!!
HOWEVER, ALL THREE ARE FAIRLY SKILLED...

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ドサッ
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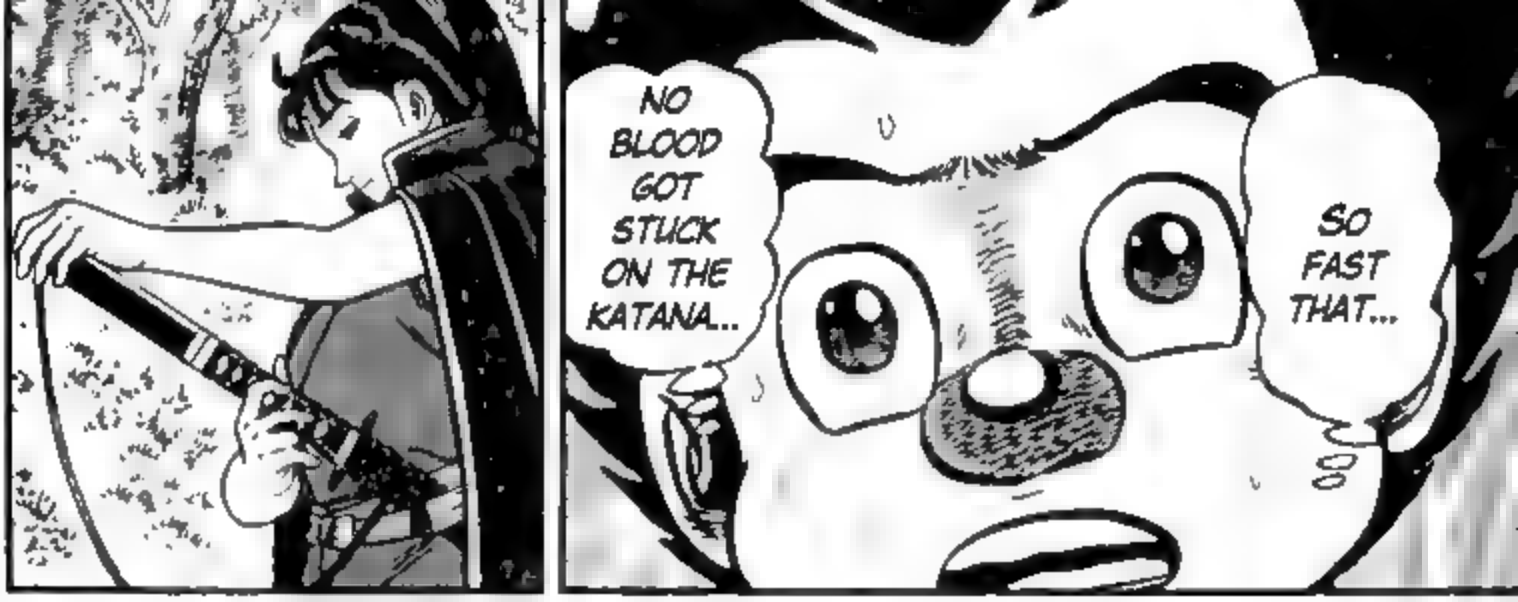
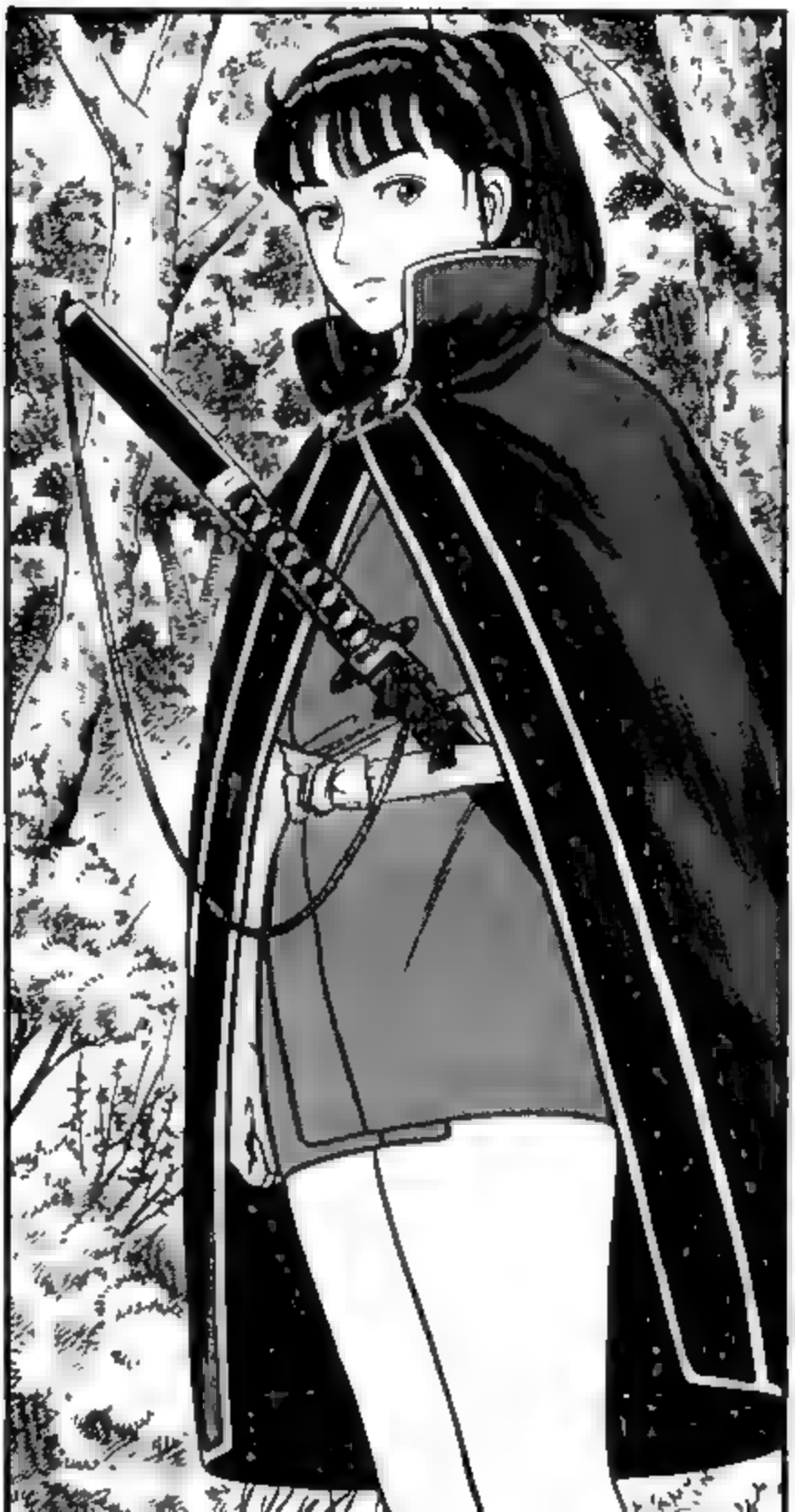
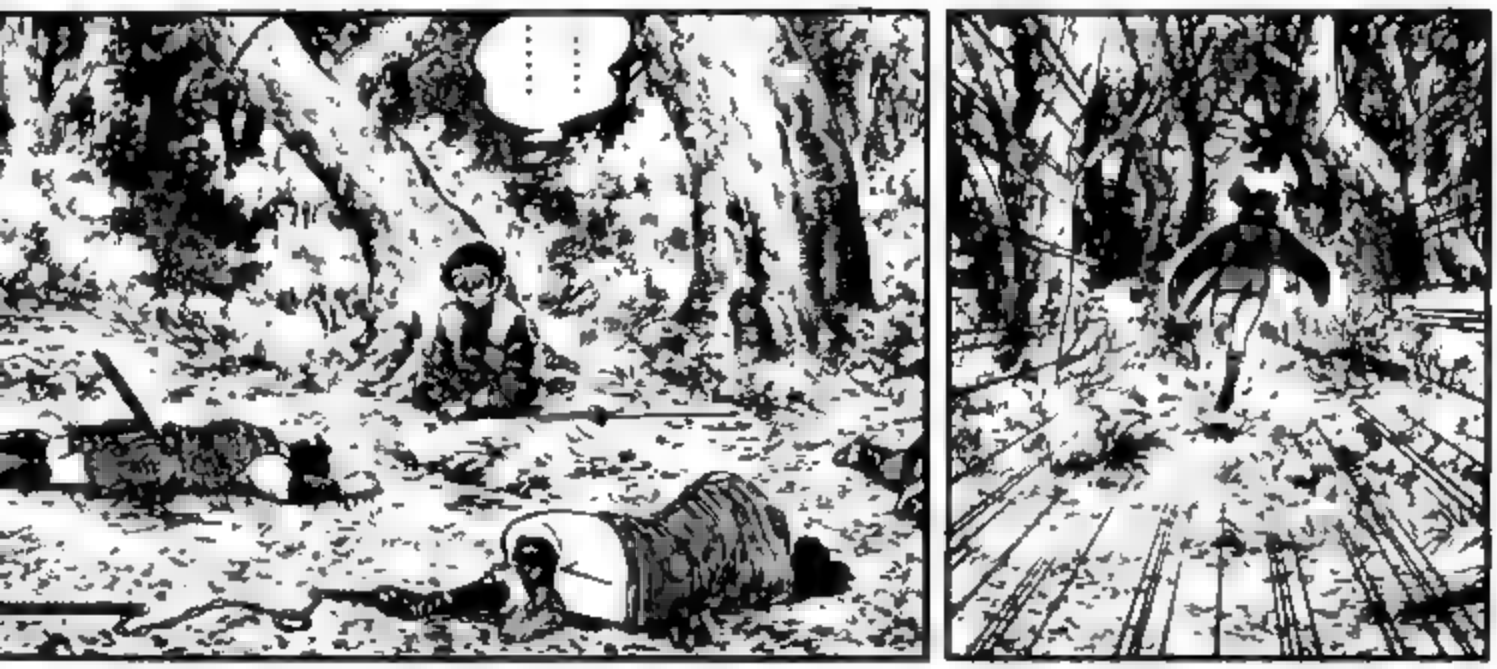

NO BLOOD GOT STUCK ON THE KATANA...
SO FAST THAT...



YOU'RE...

DREADFULLY STRONG...

YES...
HURRY, GO!!
YES.....
LEAVE IT TO ME AND HURRY BACK!! IF THOSE TWO CAME SEARCHING FOR YOU IT WOULD BE OVER.
WE MUST HIDE THE CORPSES...


.....

EVEN I ENDED UP HAVING MY LIFE SAVED BY HER...
SHIT...
WAY TOO STRONG...
SHE'S...

AH!!
AZUMI-SAN!!
THIS WAY!!

I MADE YOU WAIT.
SORRY.

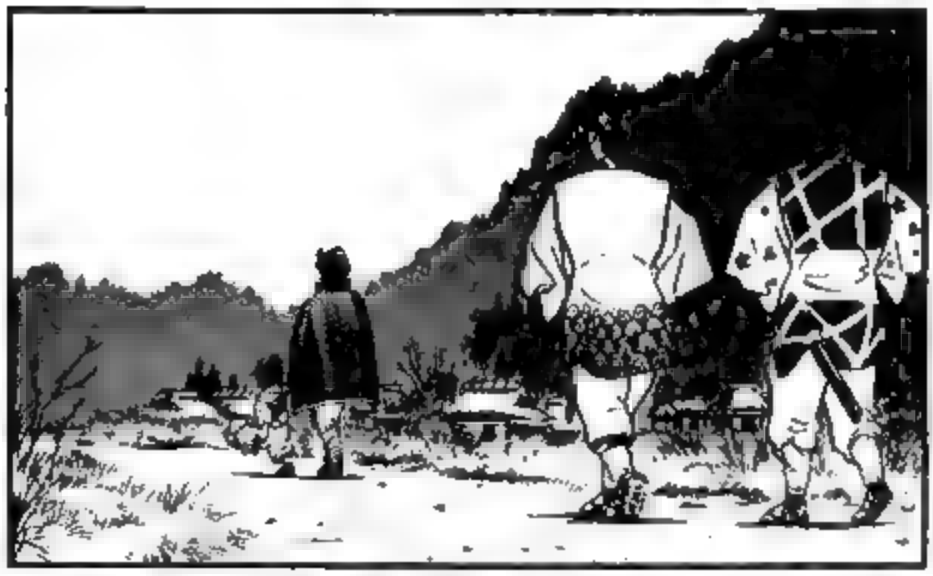
KO-HYOTA,
YES!!
IT'S TIME TO GO BACK!!

SHE DOESN'T SAY THOSE LOVING WORDS LIKE THE OTHER WOMEN THAT SEETH YOUR TEETH ON EDGE...

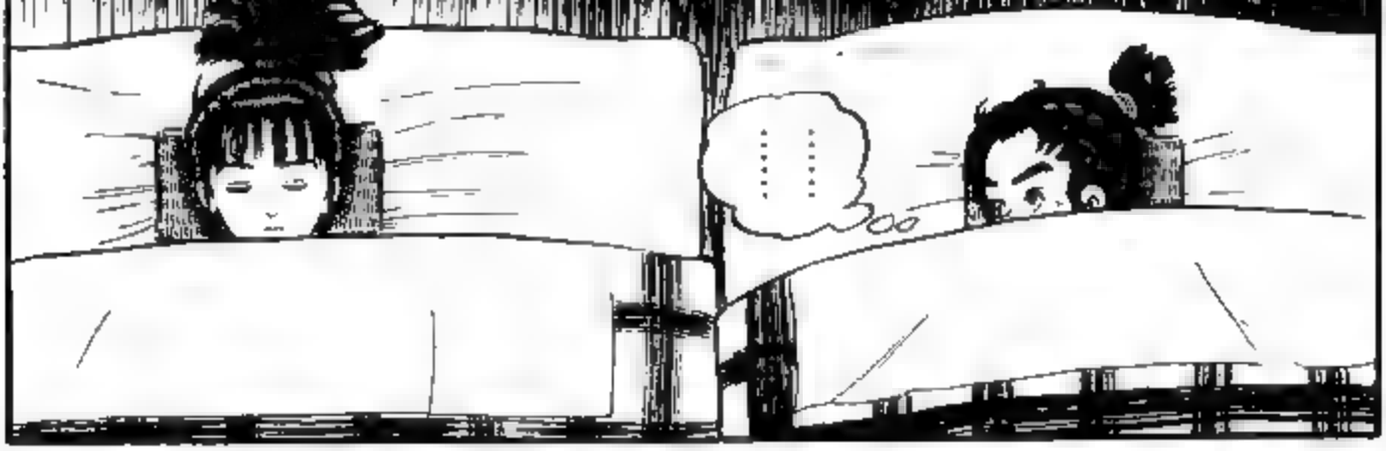
UHM !?
SEEM VERY ABSORBED BY AZUMI.
YOU...

YOU ALSO PUT A LOT OF ENTHUSIASM IN THAT FLUTE TODAY...

WELL, LET'S NOT HAVE HARD FEELINGS TOWARDS WHOEVER OF US SHE FALLS FOR!



HOWLS



YES.
TONIGHT IS REALLY COLD...
YES...
CAN'T SLEEP?

UHM !?
A... AZUMI-SAN...

SO, TO-GETHER...
IT's COLD.
C-CAN'T I COME OVER THERE?

YES, COME HERE!

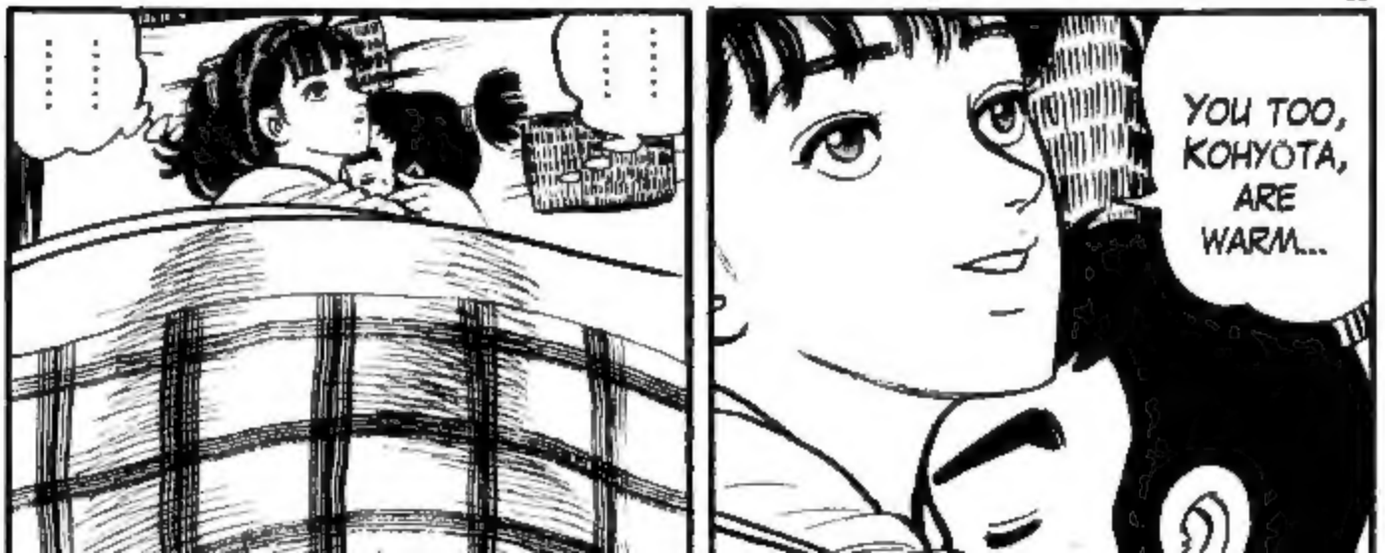
.....

.....

I'M HAPPY!!
EH HE.

ぎゅっ?!
IS IT OK IF I GET CLOSER !?
ALL RIGHT, COME!

AZUMI-SAN, YOU'RE SO SOFT...
AND AMAZINGLY WARM...
.....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.....
YOU TOO, KOHYOTA, ARE WARM...

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"Azumi" Volume 8 – End -

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AND HAPPY SCANS
TRANSLATED BY GUREN
CLEANED BY
MIKJAK
PROOFREADING
BY WRIGHT
TYPESETTING BY
KAZUHIKO

あずみ8 —ひとり—

ビッグコミックス

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